



THE VALUE OF GUILT?

THE REALITY OF THE SINNERS GUILT BEFORE GOD

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" – **Rom. 3:23**

"For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin" – **Ecc. 7:20**

"But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe" – **Gal. 3:22**

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" – **1 Jn. 1:8**

THE VALUE OF GUILT?

BOTH SPIRITUAL & EARTHLY CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.

- ▶ Violating even one law, though we keep the rest, makes us guilty before God - **Jas. 2:10**
- ▶ The Bible tells us that all sin separates us from God - **Isa. 59:1-2**
- ▶ If we believe in, and by faith obey Jesus, we will be forgiven of our sins - **Jn. 8:24; Acts 2:38**
- ▶ Even when one's sins are forgiven there remains earthly consequences

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And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

- ▶ While God and man may forgive us, forgiving ourselves may be much more difficult.
- ▶ "For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me" **Ps. 51:3**
- ▶ Paul is an example of how our guilty past can positively effect us - **1 Tim. 1:12-17**

THE VALUE OF GUILT?

DESTRUCTIVE RESPONSE TO GUILT

Denial of Guilt
Defy Guilt Until it Goes Away
(Dr Wayne Dyer - Erroneous Zone, 90)

"Do something which you know is bound to result in feelings of guilt....Take a week to be alone if you have always wanted to do so, despite the guilt-engendering protestation from other members of your family. These kinds of behaviors will help you to tackle that guilt."

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Defy Guilt Until it Goes Away

- "Hardened by the deceitfulness of sin" - **Heb. 3:13**
- leads to the "searing of the conscience" - **1 Tim 4:2**
- Those who suppress the truth in their conscience will be abandoned by God - **Rom 1:18-20**

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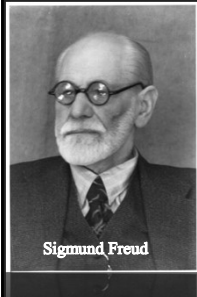
Denial of Guilt
 redefine sin as not being sin

B.F. Skinner (Harvard professor, founder of behaviorist psychology)

"Guilt is a myth because man is simply a product of evolution—controlled exclusively by his environment."

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Denial of Guilt
 By Blaming Others

Believed that all guilt comes from authoritarian sources, i.e. religion, parents, government, etc.

- **Adam & Eve – Gen. 3:12-13**
- **King Saul – 1 Sam 15:15,20-21**

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Dealing With GUILT

Remove the reality of sin, guilt of sin, and the human conscience and you remove the need for a Savior, repentance, and redemption.

THE VALUE OF GUILT?

THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT

Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. 4 Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge.

1. Acknowledgment

- ▶ Acknowledge our TOTAL dependence upon the mercy of God – **Ps. 51:1-3**
- ▶ Acknowledge our guilt - take responsibility – **Ps. 51:4**
- ▶ Plead for God's forgiveness & TRULY repent - **Ps. 51:7-17**

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THE CORRECT RESPONSE TO OUR GUILT

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.


2. Complete Devotion

- ▶ God rejects the "double minded" – **Jas. 1:8; Matt. 6:24**
- ▶ Our guilt SHOULD motivate us to whole hearted devotion – **Gal. 2:20; 5:24**

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3. Fruit of Repentance


- ▶ Part of repentance includes restitution. - **Lk. 19:8**
- ▶ We can't always make restitution, but we can express sorrow and show by our life we have changed.

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Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness...



4. Accept God's Forgiveness

- Forgiving ourselves is NOT EASY! Even if we don't feel forgiven, we can know we are. - **1 Jn. 3:20**
- Paul never forgot he was a persecutor, yet his hope was firm - **2 Tim. 4:8**
- When we obey the gospel by faith - we are FORGIVEN! - **Acts 2:38; 1 Jn. 1:9,10**

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5. Accept Consequences

- "...the sword shall never depart from your house ... " **2 Sam. 12:10**
- Nathan also told David that the son of Bathsheba would die - **2 Sam. 12**

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5. Accept Consequences

- Paul was told he would suffer much for the "name of Jesus" - **Acts 9:16**
- * A list of sufferings given in - **2 Cor. 11:23-27**
- * Paul pleaded with God to remove his thorn in the flesh..."My grace is sufficient for you." - **2 Cor. 12:7-10**

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6. Use Guilt Positively

- It should motivate us to live humbly toward God and those we have sinned against. - **Matt. 5:3; Jas. 4:8-10**
- Should remind us of the pain we've caused God, others, and ourselves. - **1 Cor. 15:10; 1 Tim. 1:14-17**

Dealing With GUILT

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Dealing With GUILT

1. Acknowledge Guilt
2. Complete Devotion To God
3. Fruit of Repentance
4. Accept God's Forgiveness
5. Accept Consequences
6. Use Guilt Positively

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Dealing With GUILT

Hear	John 12:48
Believe	John 8:24
Repent	Luke 13:3
Confess	Matt. 10:32-33
Baptized	Mark 16:16
Faithful	Matt. 24:13