

Your Sin Will Find You Out

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Num 32:23 But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

Psa 90:8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

Isa 3:11 Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him: for the reward of his hands shall be given him.

Eccl 12:14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Luke 12:2-3 For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops.

- I. People sin because they think they will get away with it.
 - A. Secrecy, and the thought that there will be no consequences, are the two motives that cause people to step over the line from temptation and imagination, to actually committing sin.
 - B. So someone must tell you today that you will NOT get away with it and that you will be exposed.
 - C. If you are convinced that your sin will eventually be revealed, and that there will be consequences, it will keep you from sin.

- II. These facts are true of the beginning of all sin:
 - A. Those who sin openly and without shame did not begin that way.
 1. Their sin began in secret before it was manifested openly.
 - B. The mind is a secret place and it is the door of entrance for sin in every life.
 1. The mind affects the heart – so what you allow your mind to think on is what your heart will grow to desire and love.
 2. You begin to think about sin in secret in your mind long before you actually step out and cross the line of imagination into real actions.
 - C. Therefore, we should put forth a strong, conscious effort to keep our mind pure.
 1. What we allow into our mind is what we are going to think on – so be careful.
 2. We should limit the input from worldly sources – news, entertainment, music, because they can easily capture a place in our mind and we begin to think on things that lead to sin.
 - D. We must understand that the enemy of God and our soul is in control of this world system.
 1. Everything is designed as a snare and a trap, and we are the prey.
 2. The things used to catch our attention with are bait in the trap.
 - E. Sin IS a trap – and you only find that out AFTER you have crossed the line and taken the bait.

1. You will find that you have gotten yourself in a mess from which there is no escape.
- III. If he can capture a place in our mind then he has a base to work from to take over our soul completely.
- A. If he can get us to thinking on certain things it won't be long before our heart will desire those things.
 - B. Seeing and hearing what sinners are doing is poison to our soul.
 1. It vexes our soul – it wears us down and breaks down the shock of sin to a pure heart – we get used to it and it no longer shocks or offends our heart so much.
 - C. You may think you are safe because you have made your choice to serve God, but you are not safe on those grounds only.
 1. You may have been told that the devil cannot get you because you are a child of God – but the truth is you are his very target BECAUSE you are a child of God.
 2. Simply being a child also makes you a target of Satan – he wants to stop anyone and everyone from glorifying God with their life.
- IV. The best deterrent to sin is to realize that you will be found out.
- A. I have lived long enough to know that God exposes sin in THIS life – it is not just at the judgement in the far future.
 1. Sometimes people live a lifetime in secret sin, but are exposed before they leave this world.
 - B. As you are debating in your secret place about committing a sin, you need to add to those thoughts what you are going to feel like when you are standing before others, and they know what you have done – because that is going to happen as surely as you commit the sin – God says so.
 1. You need to see the hurt and the shame your sin will cause the ones that love you.
 2. You need to think about what you are going to feel when you hear their weeping and see their tears of pain and loss.
 3. You need to think about your life and what it will be like after you have ruined your reputation and everyone knows about your sin.
- V. The other major deterrent to sin is to realize that you will suffer loss – there WILL be consequences and they will be heavy and grievous.
- A. Sin begins and is carried on with lies – and one of those lies is that you will be better off, you will gain by it.
 1. But sin has never been committed without great loss.
 - B. Another lie you will believe when you are entering into sin is that you will get away with it.
 1. Although there are 6000 years of history on earth that testify that no man sins and gets away with it, you will think you are going to be the first – how foolish!
- VI. There is hope for the sinner, and that is why we are preaching this evening.
- A. I'm glad to have a message of deliverance for those who have fallen for the devil's lies and ruined their lives.

Prov 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

- B. Yes, there is mercy and forgiveness from God and from others.
 - 1. Those who love you will be able to forgive you and still love you because there is a God in heaven who sent his Son and made it possible for us to follow in his steps.
 - 2. God will forgive and cleanse you from your sin – He has made provision for that by his blood that was shed.
- C. BUT ...there are still consequences here.
 - 1. To be justified before God does NOT mean that it will be as if you never sinned.
 - 2. There will be shame.
 - 3. There will be loss.
 - 4. There will be pain in the hearts of those who love you – and you will not be able to fix that.
- D. The essence of redemption and the Atonement is that someone else suffers for your sin.
 - 1. Your sin will hurt someone else more than it will hurt you.
 - 2. You can rejoice in your forgiveness and your new life, but the cost for your joy was taken from someone else's soul.
- E. The person who truly finds forgiveness from God will realize that Jesus' life was the price of their redemption.
 - 1. As they grow in grace they will realize that it also cost those here on earth who were hurt and wronged by their sin – and this is one of the consequences of sin that cannot be erased – it will cause you great pain.

VII. Sin is a terrible monster that when it is loosed to do its work wrecks things that cannot ever be put back like they were.

Jer 18:4 And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Marred – ruined, corrupted, destroyed, spoiled.

Ezra 3:12 But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, *who were* ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy:

Hag 2:3-9 Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing? ...The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.

Rom 5:20 ... But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: