

## **The Gospel of Christ and the Problem of Sin**

# *The Gospel Addresses The Guilt Of Sin*

**TEXT: Rom. 3:23; 6:23; 7:24; Acts 2:38**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. OUR PREVIOUS LESSONS WE HAVE DISCUSSED HOW THE GOSPEL ADDRESSES THE PROBLEM, LOVE, PRACTICE AND STATE OF SIN.
- B. WHAT IS THE GOSPEL'S ANSWER TO THE GUILT OF SIN?

## **I. THE GUILT OF SIN.**

- A. ALL ARE "GUILTY" BEFORE GOD IN REGARDS TO SIN.
  - 1. The first major point in the epistle to the Romans( **Rom. 3:9-11** ).
  - 2. Even if a person breaks only one commandment!( **James 2:10-11** ).
- B. THIS "GUILT" REFERS PRIMARILY TO **LEGAL GUILT**.
  - 1. In the sense of having violated the LAW of God.
    - a. In this way, EVERYONE has sinned( **Rom. 3:23** ).
    - b. This makes them "transgressors" of the law( **1 John 3:4** ).
    - c. Synonyms are used to describe those who have violated God's law:
      - 1) "lawless"( **1 Tim. 1:9** )                      3) "workers of iniquity"( **Luke 13:27** ).
      - 2) "disobedient"( **Titus 1:16** ).            4) "ungodly"( **1 Pet. 4:18** ).
  - 2. This "legal guilt" is real, whether or not a person...
    - a. Is aware of their actual "guilt."
    - b. Feels any sense of "emotional guilt."
    - c. Still held accountable before God as "guilty" of sin:( **2 Cor. 5:10** ).
- C. THERE IS ALSO **EMOTIONAL GUILT**, FEELINGS OF GUILT.
  - 1. A **side effect** of legal guilt. Involves anxiety, depression, fear, doubt ( **Isa. 48:22** ) "**There is no peace, saith Jehovah, to the wicked.**"
  - 2. Some don't experience this( **1 Tim. 1:19-20; 4:1-2** ).
  - 3. But such people are guilty of "legal guilt", nonetheless!
- D. THE GOSPEL DECLARES THAT WHEN WE OBEY THE COMMANDS OF THE GOSPEL, WE RECEIVE THE PROMISES. IT IS THE PROMISE OF REMISSION OF SINS THAT ADDRESSES GUILT.

## **II. THE REMISSION OF SINS.**

- A. **REMISSION OF SINS** HAS A PROMINENT PLACE IN THE GOSPEL.
  - 1. The blood of Jesus was shed for the remission of our sins( **Matt. 26:28** ).
  - 2. Remission of sins was preached in Jesus' name to all( **Luke 24:45-47** ).
  - 3. Peter told people they could receive remission of sins in the name of Jesus
    - a. By **believing** in Jesus( **Acts 10:42-43** )
    - b. By **repenting** and **being baptized** in His name( **Acts 2:38** )
- B. WHAT DOES THIS **REMISSION OF SINS** INVOLVE?
  - 1. remission, **aphesis**-"1) release from bondage or imprisonment; 2) **forgiveness** or **pardon**, of sins (letting them go as if they had never been committed), remission (forgiveness) of the penalty"( **Thayer** ).
  - 2. Other terms found in the Bible to describe the "remission" of sins:
    - a. taken away( **John 1:29** )                      e. not imputed( **Rom. 4:8** ).

- b. blotted out( **Acts 3:19** )
  - c. washed away( **Acts 22:16** )
  - d. covered( **Rom. 4:7** ).
  - f. set free( **Rom. 6:17-18** ).
  - g. purged( **Heb. 1:3; 2 Pet. 1:9** ).
  - h. remembered no more( **Heb. 8:12** ).
3. A legal term **justified dikaioo**, "to render just or innocent"( **1 Cor. 6:11** ).
- C. NOT JUST REMOVAL OF **LEGAL GUILT**, BUT **EMOTIONAL** ALSO!
- 1. We can now have a **perfect** conscience.
    - a. Something the **Old Law could not do!**( **Heb. 9:8-10; 10:1-4** ).
    - b. The blood of Jesus affords a perfect conscience( **Heb. 9:14; 10:22** ).
  - 2. Perfect in that we have reason to not feel guilt, our **sins** are **totally forgiven!**
  - 3. Instead of the melancholy of guilt, we have PEACE and JOY through the justification that comes by grace( **Acts 8:39; Rom. 5:1-2** ).

### CONCLUSION:

- A. THE GOSPEL'S SOLUTION TO THE GUILT OF SIN IS REMISSION!
- B. HOW DOES ONE RECEIVE THIS PROMISE OF REMISSION?
  - 1. By **believing** in Jesus( **Acts 10:42-43** ).
  - 2. By **repenting** and **being baptized** in His name( **Acts 2:38** ).
  - 3. In obedience to the commands of Jesus( **Heb. 5:8-9** ).
  - 4. Please note how baptism in particular answers the problem of guilt.
    - a. First, the LEGAL guilt( **Acts 2:38; 22:16** ).
    - b. But also EMOTIONAL guilt( **1 Peter 1:6-9** ).
- C. HAVE YOU ACCEPTED THE GOSPEL'S PROMISE OF REMISSION OF SINS BY OBEDIENCE TO THE COMMANDS OF JESUS?