

SERMON NOTES

Series: Seven Last Words of Christ

Title: The Word of Forgiveness (1)

Text: Luke 23:27-37

Topic: Guilt

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 2/26/23

File Under: Seasonal



“Then Jesus said, ‘FATHER FORGIVE THEM, for they do not know what they are doing.’” Luke 23:24

WHAT WE USUALLY DO WITH GUILT

We try to bury it. *“When I refused to confess my sins, I was weak and miserable, and I groaned all day long... My strength evaporated like water in the summer heat. Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide them. I said to myself, ‘I will confess my rebellion to the Lord.’ And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.”* Psalm 32:3-5 (NLT) *“You’ll never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins.”* Proverbs 28:13

We blame others. *“‘Yes,’ Adam admitted. ‘But it was the woman you gave me who brought me some, and I ate it.’”* Gen. 3:12 (LB) *“Some people ruin themselves by their own stupid actions and then blame the Lord.”* Proverbs 19:3

We beat ourselves up. *“My guilt has overwhelmed me; like a load it weighs me down... because I was foolish, I’m bent over and bowed down; I am sad all day long.”* Psalm 38:4-6 (NCV)

WHAT JESUS WANTS US TO DO WITH GUILT

Admit it. *“The Lord gave us a mind and a conscience. We cannot hide from ourselves.”* Proverbs 20:27 *“If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”* 1 John 1:8

To stop **defeating** myself I have to stop **deceiving** myself.

Accept responsibility for it. *“I recognized my faults. I am conscious of my sins.”* Psalm 51:3

Ask for forgiveness. *“If we freely admit that we have sinned, we find God utterly reliable... He forgives your sin and makes us thoroughly clean from all that is evil.”* 1 John 1:9 (Ph) *“Yet God declares us ‘not guilty’ if we trust in Jesus Christ, who in his mercy freely takes away our sin.”* Romans 3:24 (LB)

Confession is not for **God’s** benefit; it’s for **your** benefit.

Your forgiveness is not based on how little or much you’ve **done**. It is based on what Jesus has **done**.

WHAT JESUS DOES WITH MY GUILT

Forgives instantly. *“God is merciful and quick to forgive.”* Isaiah 55:7

Forgives completely. *“He [Jesus] has forgiven all your sins. He has utterly wiped out the evidence of broken commandments which always hung over our heads, and has completely annulled it by nailing it to the cross.”* Col. 2:13-14 (Ph)

Forgives repeatedly. We all have our specialty sins; sins that we tend to struggle with over and over again. *“(Christ)... is always interceding on our behalf.”* Heb. 7:25 (Ph)

Forgives freely. *“For by the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross we are set free. That is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God.”* Ephesians 1:7 (GN)

The fundamental truth of Christianity, is that God took **your** problem and made it **his** problem.

*“What happiness for those whose guilt has been forgiven!...
What relief for those who... God has cleared their record!”*

Ps. 32:1-2