

DEALING WITH SIN HEAD ON PT.2 - CONSEQUENCES

Question: When we confess our sins and the lord forgives us of our sins, does that reverse the consequences of our sin?

Answer: No

Definition of CONSEQUENCE - the result, effect or outcome of a particular action or situation, often one that is bad or not convenient.

1 John 1:9

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

☐ If we **confess** sin, you may **just** suffer the natural or supernatural fallout, result/outcome of your sin without the discipline or chastening of the Lord.

1 John 1:10

10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

☐ If we **don't confess** our sins, we may be disciplined/chastised **AND** suffer the result/outcome of our sin.

STEPS IN PROCESS OF CONFESSION AND DISCIPLINE

We are first informed of our of sin

2 Sam 12:5-7

5 Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die,

6 and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

7 Nathan said to David, "**You are the man!....**

☐ **Once we are informed of our sin, one of two things can happen, for the most part.**

1. We can confess our sin
2. We can ignore, not confess, and not deal with our sin

If we **confess** [to admit it, acknowledge it, say the same thing about it and have the same attitude towards it that God has – The sin is a breaking and a violation of God's law and **repent** of] our sins then **1 John 1:9** goes into play. Meaning that he will **forgive** us of our sins and **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness [washes and cleans our feet **Jn 13:10-11**].

WHEN WE CONFESS OUR SINS...

Example from the life of David – David's confession

2 Sam 12:13

13 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord."

And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin [to forgive]; you shall not die.

Other scripture examples of God forgiving after a genuine confession (i.e. withholding his discipline)

Ps 32:5

5 I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I **did not cover my iniquity**; = instead, he dealt with it/sin.
I said, "I will **confess my transgressions** to the Lord,"
and you **forgave** [to send away; to let go of a debt by not demanding it] the iniquity of my sin.

Ps 51:1-4

1 Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out **my transgressions**.
2 Wash me thoroughly from **my iniquity**,
and cleanse me from **my sin**!
3 For **I know my transgressions**,
and **my sin** is ever before me.
4 Against you, you only, **have I sinned**
And [I] **done what is evil** in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.

Once the lord has forgiven us of our sins and cleansed us from all unrighteousness [in other words, once He has washed and cleansed our feet Jn 13:10-11], our fellowship and the joy of our salvation are restored.

We are back to walking in the light....

1 John 1:6-7

6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Ps 51:7-12

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean [that's the cleansing of our feet, if you will]
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

11 **Cast me not away from your presence,**

and take not your Holy Spirit from me. [Restore our fellowship]
12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
 and uphold me with a willing spirit.

WHEN WE DO NOT CONFESS OUR SINS...

Discipline/chastisement of God

If we don't confess our sins then **Hebrews 12:5-11** is then put into play. In other words, the **discipline/chastisement** of the Lord begins.

Hebrews 12:5-11

5 And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
 nor be weary when reproved by him.

6 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves,
 and chastises every son whom he receives."

7 It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

8 If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons.

Prov 3:11-12

11 My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline
 or be weary of his reproof,

12 for the Lord reproves him whom he loves,
 as a father the son in whom he delights.

9 Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?

10 For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.

11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Example of what happens when one does not IMMEDIATELY confess sin – David

Ps 32:1-5

1 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
 whose sin is covered.

2 Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
 and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

3 For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
 through my groaning all day long. [discipline and chastisement of the Lord]

4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
 my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. [discipline and chastisement of the Lord]
 Selah

5 I acknowledged my sin to you,
 and I did not cover my iniquity; [instead, he dealt with it/sin]

I said, "I will **confess** my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you **forgave** the iniquity of my sin. [this is **1 John 1:9** on display]

The Lord's discipline is the kind of discipline that deals with our sin AND brings us to repentance, confession, forgiveness, and restored joy.

By the way, the **consequence of chastisement/discipline** seems to deal with **the person** [the heart, the attitude, the soul, the mind, the will, the emotions].

The **consequences of the act/sin** deal with **the act/sin** that was performed.

The aim of confession is forgiveness leading to a restoration of fellowship and joy.

1 John 1:6-7

6 If we say we have fellowship **with Him** while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with **one another**, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

However, the aim of confession is NOT to erase the consequences. Consequences must be dealt with even after confession of sin and parental/paternal forgiveness

Concerning consequences, there appears to be two types or categories of consequences.

- Divine/supernatural
- Human/natural

Example of divine, supernatural, consequences...

2 Sam 12:13-15

13 David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." [How did David get to this point? **Ps 32:1-5**] And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

14 Nevertheless, because by this **deed** you have utterly scorned the Lord, **the child who is born to you shall die.**"

15 Then Nathan went to his house.

The physical act of adultery was used by God to bring for a baby whom the Lord later killed as a consequence of David's sin.

Example of human, natural, consequences...

Ps 51:3

3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is **ever before me.**

Another example of **human, natural consequences** is that of a person committing a crime, truly repenting of their crime, but still must face the consequences of their crime, whether it be a fine, jail time, prison time or even death, if it's a capital crime.

Gal 6:7

7 Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, **for whatever one sows, that will he also reap**

Jeremiah 17:10

10 "I the Lord search the heart
and test the mind,
to give every man according to his ways,
according to the fruit of his deeds."

What did God promise DAVID?

2 Sam 7:14-17

14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, **I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men**, [I shall punish him as any father might, and not spare the rod (REB).

Or:

When he does wrong, I'll see that he is corrected, just as children are corrected by their parents (CEV).]

15 but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.

16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever." **17 In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.**

In other words, I won't fix all the consequences, but I will continue to show David my lovingkindness, forgiveness, and compassion.

At the heart of God's pledge to His children is forgiveness and compassion.

If you sin, He'll discipline you. Why?

To bring you to the place of confession so that your joy, your holiness and your righteousness can be restored.

And then when you face the consequence of your sin, He will minister to you His lovingkindness, His grace and mercy and His compassion.

1 John 1

The forgiveness here **1 John 1:9** is parental forgiveness can also be **relational** forgiveness which leads to **restoration**.

Ps 51:12

12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Ps 32:1-5

1 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

2 Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

3 For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Selah

5 I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "**I will confess** my transgressions to the Lord,"
and **you forgave** the iniquity of my sin.