

Three Facts of Sin and Three Facts of Salvation

Chapter 12

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson 38



Objective: To learn both the tragedy of sin and the remedy for sin.



“As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.”

—Psalm 103:12

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

—Romans 8:1, 2

David tells us that we solve our guilt problem when we acknowledge God’s standard of what is right and wrong, and that standard convinces us that we are sinners. When we confess our sin, God will restore our soul. That is one of the most important applications we can make from the story of David’s sin.

We can learn three facts about sin in David’s life. First, sin has terrible consequences. Sin always comes with a penalty, both future and present. Second, sin has great power. If a man like David could be brought down by the power of sin, who are we to think that we can withstand it? We should never underestimate the power of sin. And third, sin has a very high price tag. *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord”* (Romans 6:23). It leaves scars and its stains, and some of those scars and stains are irreversible and irrevocable.

Like the black velvet background against which a jeweler displays his diamonds, sin’s dark penalty, power, and price tag make three facts of salvation shine all the brighter. First, Jesus Christ has removed the penalty of sin. Second, the Holy Spirit is more powerful than the power of sin and can keep the power of sin from ruling our life. The third fact of salvation is a little more complicated, because it relates to sin’s stains, scars, and price tag. In the sight of God, even the stains of sin are washed away by forgiveness, but sometimes sin’s stains and scars are irreversible on a human level. Consequences for our sins may remain, even though we are completely forgiven by God.



1. True or false? The Bible teaches us to never have guilty feelings.
2. True or false? The best way to solve guilt is to lower our standards and deny that we fall short or sin.
3. True or false? Sin has a penalty.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

4. What is the only way to remove the future penalty of sin?
 - a. By paying God back for our sin
 - b. By forgetting our sin completely
 - c. By doing many good works
 - d. By accepting Jesus Christ's finished work on the cross by faith
5. Which of the following are present consequences of sin? (*choose all that apply*)
 - a. Freedom
 - b. Wasting parts of our lives
 - c. Bondage to sin
 - d. Spiritual and material prosperity
 - e. Peace in our heart
6. How long do we have to be a Christian before overcoming the power of sin?
 - a. At least three years
 - b. Usually after ten years
 - c. As long as it takes to have enough faith
 - d. We never completely overcome sin's power in this life. It is always possible for us to sin.
7. According to the Bible, what are the wages of sin?
 - a. Memorizing and repeating long prayers
 - b. Many sacrifices of meat and grain offerings
 - c. Years of penance
 - d. Death

8. What happens to the consequences and scars of sin when we have been forgiven?
- a. Many times the consequences and scars remain.
 - b. God removes them completely.
 - c. We forget them, though everyone else remembers.
 - d. We remember them, but no one else does.
9. How many solutions did God provide for the future penalty of sin?
- a. One
 - b. About three
 - c. Many
 - d. None. He only took care of the present penalty.
10. How can we keep the power of sin under control?
- a. We cannot.
 - b. By self-discipline
 - c. Only by the power of the Holy Spirit
 - d. By memorizing God's laws
11. How does God see our sin after He forgives us?
- a. He chooses not to see our sin anymore.
 - b. He always sees the stains.
 - c. It still grieves Him.
 - d. He reminds us of our sin often.
12. In what ways does God justify us when He forgives us?
- a. In the eyes of people
 - b. In His eyes
 - c. Both
 - d. Neither
13. What are the three facts of salvation? (*choose all that apply*)
- a. In God's eyes we are justified, but we still suffer the consequences of sin.
 - b. The Holy Spirit can give us the power to conquer sin.
 - c. Jesus' death on the cross paid the future penalty of sin.
 - d. We can live in sin because God forgives us.



Satan does not want us to know or think about the three facts of sin. What facts of God's salvation do you need to understand and experience more in your life? Who do you need to tell about the three facts of sin and three facts of salvation?



Thank God for His forgiveness and great grace and mercy in your life. Ask Him to help you experience His power over sin more in your life. Ask God to give you courage to share the good news of His salvation with others.



Going Deeper

1. Explain how you relate, by personal application, to the three facts of sin? _____

2. How do you relate, by personal application, to the three facts of salvation? _____

3. How do you relate, by personal application, to the challenges involved in the third fact of sin and salvation? _____

4. Relate these three questions and their answers to the sin of David. _____

5. What does the fact that David sinned in the 16th year of his reign and yet remained as king for 24 more years after his sin tell you about the way God rehabilitates a leader who has fallen into sin? Consider the fact that the Latin root of the word *rehabilitation* means *to invest again with dignity*.” _____

6. Did this whole experience increase or decrease David’s capacity to be a good king? How? _____

7. Did David have more or less compassion and understanding for people who fell into sin (consider the psalms of David that were written during this period of his life and reign as a king)? Explain. _____
