

Sustaining Our Faith through Confession and Forgiveness: Psalm 32

Introduction:

Three types of suffering:

“deserved suffering”

“innocent suffering”

“righteous suffering”

Title: from a verb which means “be wise, prudent”

A wisdom psalm

32:1–2) “How blessed” (twice)

transgression, sin, iniquity

forgiven (carried), covered, never count against

The book of Psalms begins with the same blessing, but.....

How do we access this total forgiveness?

32:3–4)

Since we are a unity of body and spirit, if our spirit is troubled, it may affect our bodies.
(1 Corinthians 11:29–30; James 5:14–16)

What prevents us from experiencing relief from the burden of our sin? Stubborn pride!

32:5) acknowledged, did not hide, confess

sin, iniquity, transgressions

(Proverbs 28:13)

32:6–7)

There are certain times when God is working on your heart and you need to respond.

(Isaiah 55:6-7)

hiding place, preserve me, surround me

He shares his life lesson to help others.

32:8) instruct, teach, counsel

“you” singular (Probably this is God speaking to David because verse 9 is plural.)

32:9) David is mocking the stubborn pride that keeps people from humbly acknowledging sin.

Don't put yourself in the situation where God uses force to humble you.

32:10–11)

32:10 Opposing parallelism

glad, rejoice, shout for joy

Conclusion:

God: the junk artist

The Biblical Poet's Toolbox

-Parallelism: Two lines, usually about the same length, where the first line says something and the second line says something that is related. (Sometimes three lines are parallel.)

Example of **Affirming parallelism** (the second line say something similar):

“But his delight is in the law of the Lord
And on his law he meditates day and night.” (Ps 1:2)

Example of **Opposing parallelism** (the second line says something opposite):

“Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
But he who trusts in the Lord, lovingkindness will surround him.” (Ps 32:10)

-Merism: Contrasting words are used to express completeness or totality.

Example: “In his hand are the depths of the earth,

And the mountain peaks belong to him. [*everything on the vertical axis*]

The sea is his, for he made it,

And his hands formed the dry land.” [*everything on the horizontal axis*]

(Ps 95:4–5)