



LIVING IN THE PRESENCE OF A HOLY GOD

ABF Series • Pastor Brian

PSALM 121:1-4

Psalm 121:1-4 (ESV)

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

²My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

PSALM 121:5-8

Psalm 121:5-8 (ESV)

⁵The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

⁶The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

⁷The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

⁸The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

SIN AND OFFERINGS

1. How important is a “minor slip” in God’s mind?

- Define sin:

1. Transgression of the law – 1 John 3:4
2. Failure to do good – James 4:13
3. Trampling over the personal conscience – Romans 14:23

2. What is an intentional sin? (vs. 2, 3, 13, 22, 27)

- An inadvertent fault is an error that involves an aspect of ignorance: The wrongdoer unwittingly acts and violates a divine command without knowing it at the time. The violation can be accidental or the person can know what he or she is intentionally doing in terms of activity but does not realize that it is wrong.

GOD'S RESPONSE TO UNINTENTIONAL SIN

1. He does not overlook it. God's grace is not free.
2. He does not forgive it without acknowledgement. God's forgiveness is not unconditional.
3. He mandates actions that are to reflect heart change. God expects activity reflective of a changed heart.
4. He does not accept ritual activity alone. The ritual must be accompanied by a heart filled with faith (Micah 6:6-8).
5. He does proactively provide a way of forgiveness.

LEVITICUS 5:1-13 – THE SIN OF DELAY

1. The situations in 5:1–13 implicitly require action to put things right by fulfilling delayed obligations: testifying (v. 1), undergoing ritual purification (vv. 2–3), or fulfilling an oath (v. 4).
2. This sacrifice is offered when the sinner “realizes his guilt.” The implication is that there is an internal prompt (or conscience) that makes him “feel guilty.”

LEVITICUS 5:1-13 – THE SIN OF DELAY

3. Leviticus 5:1–13 requires a sinner to confess before bringing a sacrifice (v. 5).
4. In chapter 4 sacrificial animals of different values are determined by the status of the sinners, but in 5:1–13 a descending gradation of victims/materials is based on what sinners can afford.
5. Leviticus 5:11-13 is the only example of an offering of expiation that does not include bloodshed (cf. Heb 9:22).

21ST CENTURY APPLICATIONS

1. All sin is an affront to God, thus we must not trivialize any falling short of God's glory (Rom 3:23; 6:23).
2. God blends mercy and justice in the sacrifice system. All sin demanded sacrifice, but not equally so.
3. The payment for all of our sin is paid in full by the shed blood of Jesus Christ, thus we should not allow the guilt of sin to paralyze us in Christian living.

21ST CENTURY APPLICATIONS

4. The application of the sin payment is contingent upon identifying with the sacrifice. (Sincere personal sorrow is not enough.)
5. While sacrifice expiates for a sin of neglect, it does not fulfill the neglected obligation.
6. A spirit of forgiveness reflects the heart of God, but the transaction of forgiveness requires two parties agreeing on the sin, the way of peace, and the result of forgiveness.

WHEN SOMEONE HAS SINNED AGAINST ME:

1. I determine whether love can hide it or confront it.
2. I make them aware of the specific action.
3. I make them aware of the desire for restoration and the availability of forgiveness.
4. I choose to not be controlled by my old desires (Eph 4:30-32).
5. I give time for their conscience to be internally working.
6. I engage with them based upon demands for mercy and justice.

SINS OF PRESUMPTION

Definition: Committing a known error in violation of the rights of others through the arrogance of personal thinking. In most situations it is acting in a way that assumes rights that are only relegated to God. (Psalm 19:13; Prov 21:24)

- Not the same as a sin of high-handedness (rejection of covenant obligations).
- No specific sacrifice for them – but they could be forgiven by the grace of God.
- No specific lists of sins in this area.
- The issue is the mind of the actor at the point of his sin. It is more than knowledge and intent. It is arrogance and rebellion.

PRESUMPTUOUS SINS

1. Presuming to act in the absence of God (Deut 1:41-46).
 - The sin of going against the clearly spoken word of God
 - Independence of the action in the face of the clear statement of “I will not be with you – you will be defeated.”

2. Presuming to dismiss Divinely appointed authority (Deut 17:8-13).
 - Elevating ones’ opinion above that of those who have been given authority in those areas.

PRESUMPTUOUS SINS

3. Presuming to speak falsely in the name of God (Deut 18:18-22).
 - Falsifying God's message – adding to His Word, placing divine authority upon personal opinion, or stating something is from God that does not take place.

4. Presuming to refuse God's leading by pursuing other options (Neh 9:16).
 - Rejecting the clarity of God's direction within one's life.

THE OT RESPONSE

1. There is no sacrifice for presumptuous sins; often there is immediate judgment.
2. There is a prayer for prevention of one sinning in this way (Psalm 19:13).
3. There is the Day of Atonement that provides expiation of all the sins of Israel.
4. There is the grace of God who chose to forebear sin (Rom 3:25).

THE NT RESPONSE

1. Don't presume upon the grace of God, but be thankful it is there.
2. Don't embrace the mindset that there is no penalty for sinful rebellion.
3. Don't be paralyzed by past sinful behavior, because in Jesus Christ all sins can be forgiven. He is the ultimate sacrifice.