

I. A Peaceful Portion (1-2)

15 different Hebrew words for sin in OT

- A. God's forgiveness (1a) - "Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven" **Rebellion**
- B. God's faithfulness (1b) - "...whose sin is covered..." **Failure**
- C. God's freedom (2) - "Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit..."

II. A Problematic Path (3-4)

- A. David had been defiant (3a) - "When I kept silence my bones waxed wasted away..." **No confession, no repentance**
- B. David had been disturbed (3b) - "...through my groaning all day long..." **No peace, constant agony**
- C. David had been disciplined (4a) - "For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me..."
- D. David had been dry (4b) - "...my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer."

III. A Purifying Pardon (5)

- A. David opened his mouth - "I acknowledged my sin to You..."
- B. David opened his heart - "... and I did not cover my iniquity..."
- C. David opened his mind - "...I will confess my transgressions to the Lord..." **Confess means 'to agree with'**
- D. God closed His book - "...you forgave the iniquity of my sin..." **David was not open to any charges!**

IV. A Prevailing Prayer (6-7)

- A. God is near, talk to Him (6) - "Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in great waters, they shall not reach him."
- B. God's arms are open, run to Him (7a) - "You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble"
- C. God's protection is available, rest in Him (7b) - "You surround me with shouts of deliverance."

V. A Pathway to Purity (8-11)

{God speaks to David here}

- A. **Step 1:** Be teachable (8) - "I will instruct you & teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you..."
- B. **Step 2:** Be obedient (9) - "Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you."
- D. **Step 4:** Be aware (10) - "Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD."
- E. **Step 5:** Be surrendered (11) - "Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!"