



PSALM 32

HOW TO HAVE THE PERFECT COVER

1. This psalm was written to teach us the best way to live in this world.
2. It's based on some pretty big assumptions. There are two ways to live, righteous and wicked, and the righteous way is the blessed way because God knows the righteous, hears them, protects them, and welcomes them into His presence.
3. In other words, Psalm 119. Blessed is the blameless man!
4. But here's the problem. What if you haven't been blameless? What if you know you have rebelled against God? You can minimize it, hide it, or pretend it isn't there — but that's like putting a dead body in a closet and burning a candle. It's still there. Sin is real. It brings guilt, shame, debt, and consequences.
5. It kind of feels like we are stuck in an impossible situation.
6. Which is what makes this psalm amazing. We are looking at a legit sinner who wants to tell us what he learned from his experience of being stuck in sin (verses 1-7) and what we need to do when we are (verses 8-11).
7. Before he gets into the nitty gritty of his testimony, he gives us the key takeaway. And it is shocking. He says the very same thing about this person who has sinned that other psalms say about the blameless person who kept the law.
8. How is that possible?
9. It's because God can do something with our sin we can't. He can make it possible for a sinner to be a righteous one.
10. David does not go deep into all the details of what God did to make it possible for people to be forgiven. What he is focused on here is what he wants you to learn from his life. Since God is gracious and able to forgive, the best way to live when you see that you have sinned is to go to God and have God do that for you.
11. But you are going to be tempted to try to fix it yourself by lying to God and others to cover what you did. This is the absolute worst decision you can make.
12. For your sin to be covered, you have to uncover it.
13. But actually doing that can be one of the hardest things in the world.
14. Which is why David lets us listen in as he talks to God about his personal experience.
15. He kept silent and he suffered.
16. But it doesn't have to be like that.
17. Finally he talked to God. He called his sin what God called it. He stopped hiding. And then: ****God covered it.****
18. So here's what you should do. You sinned. You are still breathing. Go to God. Tell Him everything.

Agree with Him. Don't hold back. Don't respond like an animal that doesn't think and just wants to go its own way and needs something painful to keep it near its master.

19. That's what David did at first. That's what the wicked do.
20. In the end, one of the great differences between the wicked and the righteous is not that one always sins and the other never sins. **It is what they do after they sin.** The wicked don't repent and experience many sorrows for it. The righteous trust God enough to stop hiding and take refuge in Him.
21. And if you do that, the news is shocking. No matter how much you have messed up, you are one of the blessed. You are not in some third group — wicked, righteous, and people who are forgiven but just tolerated and have to go through their whole life feeling like they don't deserve it. That would be wrong. Because what does he say at the end?
22. "Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart."
23. And you know who he is talking to? He's talking to people who sinned and who trusted God and confessed it. And he's saying: **YOUR JOB NOW IS TO BE GLAD AND TO SHOUT FOR JOY.**
24. Because you really are living the blessed life. You may not personally have been blameless like the man in Psalm 119, but because of Jesus your sin has been forgiven and God counts you among the righteous.