

Dealing With



- I. Guilt Has Its Place
- II. Understanding Forgiveness
- III. Ways To Overcome Guilt

I. Guilt Has Its Place

A. Sin Makes Us Guilty

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 *The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. (14) For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing, whether good or evil. (ESV)*



I. Guilt Has Its Place

A. Sin Makes Us Guilty

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

2. Romans 3:23 *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,*



James 1:13-15

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. (14) But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. (15) Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.



I. Guilt Has Its Place

A. Sin Makes Us Guilty

1. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

2. Romans 3:23

3. James 1:13-15

4. Romans 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*



I. Guilt Has Its Place

A. Sin Makes Us Guilty

B. Guilt Leads To Action

1. Some Reject God's Will

a. Stephen's Audience – Acts 7.51-54

b. Felix – Acts 24.25

c. Judas – Matthew 27.3-5



I. Guilt Has Its Place

A. Sin Makes Us Guilty

B. Guilt Leads To Action

1. Some Reject God's Will

2. Desired Outcome = Repentance and Confession

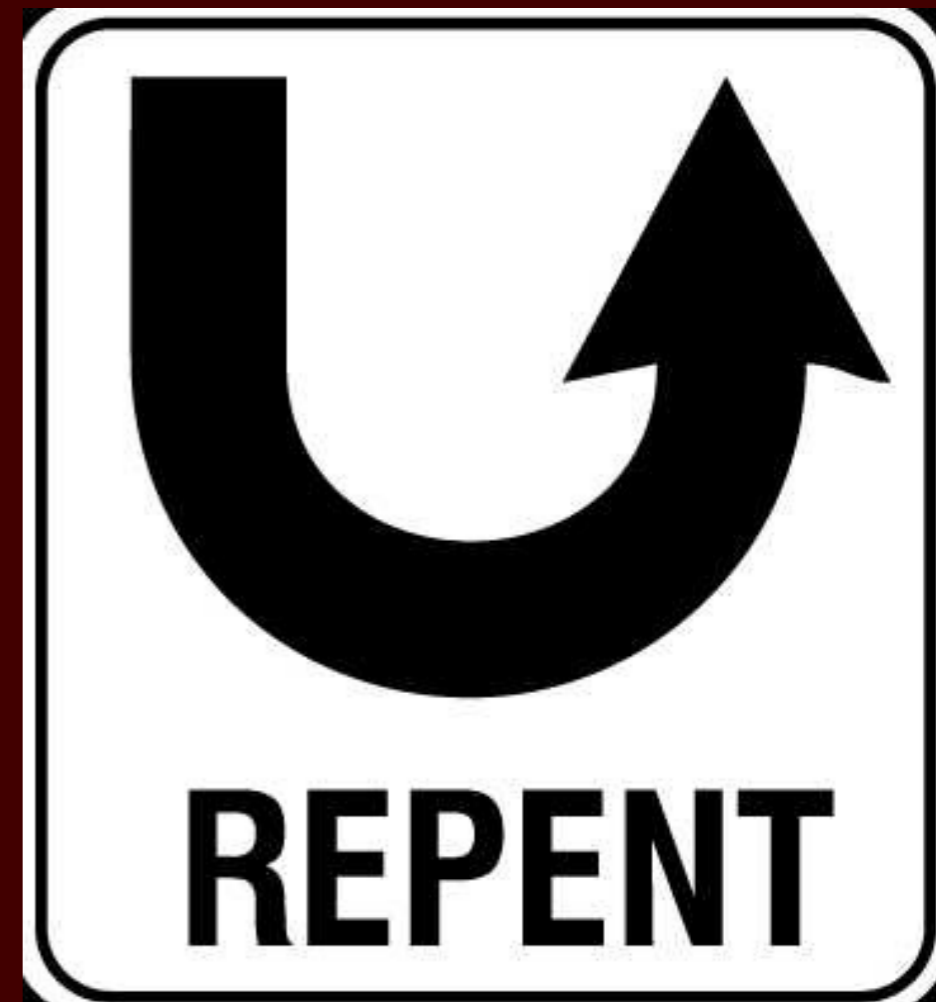
a. Audience At Pentecost –
Acts 2:36-37

b. Saul Of Tarsus On The Way To
Damascus

c. Philippian Jailer – Acts 16

d. Jonah and The Ninevites

e. David – II Samuel 12



What Now?

I Know I Am Forgiven,
But I Still Feel Guilty!

How Can God Use Someone
Broken Like Me?

II. Forgiveness = The Answer To Guilt

A. God's Forgiveness

1. God Forgives Completely

a. Psalm 103.11-12; Jeremiah 31.31-34

2. God Forgives Freely

a. 1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*



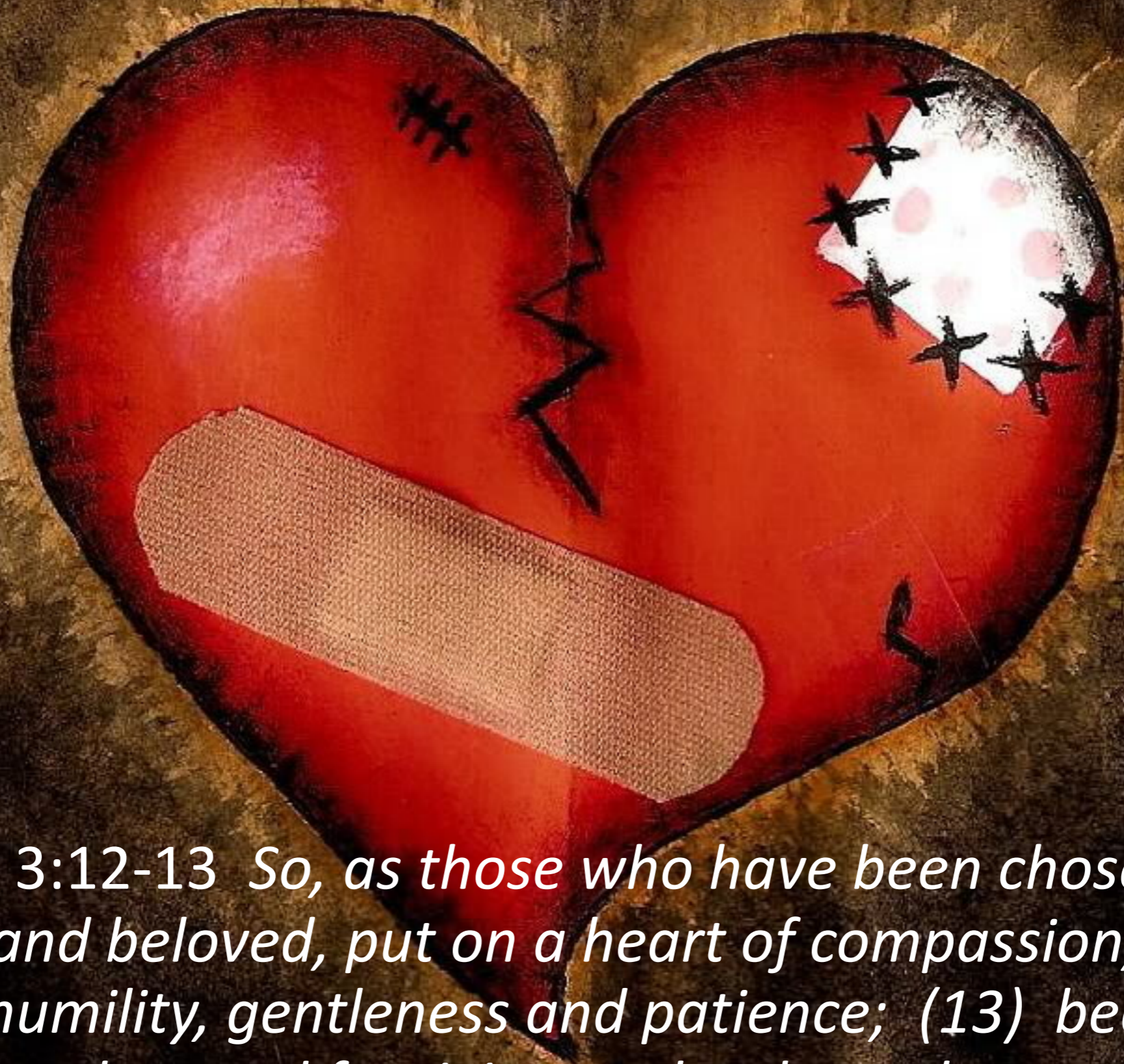
3. God Forgives Immediately

a. 2 Samuel 12:13; Psalm 32:5

Forgiving Others Like God



Mark 11:25-26 *"Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions. (26) ["But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions."]*



Colossians 3:12-13 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; (13) bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

How Is Forgive & Forget Possible?

- Have You Ever Been Hurt So Bad By A Friend, It Is Hard To Look At Them?
- How Do You Force Yourself To Forget What They Did To You?



II. Forgiveness = The Answer To Guilt

A. God's Forgiveness

B. Forgive Others The Way God Forgives Me

C. Biblical Forgiveness

1. An Act, Not An Emotion

2. Not An Erasure Of Memory

3. Forgiveness Is Saying: "I Forgive You. I Will Never Use It Against You In The Future. I Will Never Speak Of It Again To You Or To Anyone Else."

4. More About Your Tongue Than Anything Else.

- Ephesians 4:32 *Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.*
- Luke 17:3-4 *"Be on your guard! If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. (4) "And if he sins against you seven times a day, and returns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' forgive him."*





HOW DO I
FORGIVE
MYSELF?

III. Ways To Overcome Guilt

A. Recognize The Lie

1. “I am such a hypocrite. I sin, I pray, then I sin again. So what is the use in trying?”
2. Did You Learn This From The Bible?
3. IT IS A LIE OF SATAN!!!

III. Ways To Overcome Guilt

A. Recognize The Lie

B. Change Guilt Into Humility

James 4:7-10 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. (8) Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. (9) Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. (10) Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.



III. Ways To Overcome Guilt

A. Recognize The Lie

B. Change Guilt Into Humility

C. Glorify In Forgiveness

Luke 7:40-43

And Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he replied, "Say it, Teacher." (41) "A moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. (42) "When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. So which of them will love him more?" (43) Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged correctly."



III. Ways To Overcome Guilt

A. Change Guilt Into Humility

B. Recognize The Lie

C. Glorify In Forgiveness

1. Luke 7.40-43 – Forgiven More = Love More

2. Are Forgiven Sins A Reason To Be Sad Or Overjoyed?

3. Why Did The Eunuch “Go On His Way Rejoicing”?

(Acts 8.39)

a. Because He Had Done So Many Terrible Things???

b. Because All His Sins Were Washed Away?

III. Ways To Overcome Guilt

A. Change Guilt Into Humility

B. Recognize The Lie

C. Glorify In Forgiveness

D. A Motivation To Serve

Guilt As A Motivation To Serve

1. Out Of Sorrow = The Wrong Way

- a. “Do not wait to be told nor by sorrow driven to the work God has planned for you.”
- b. Just Heard A Lesson On _____ So I Ought To Do It For A While So I Don't Get In Trouble



Guilt As A Motivation To Serve

1. Out Of Sorrow = The Wrong Way

2. Out Of Love

a. Do You Think Paul Forgot What He Did To Stephen?

i. (“Forgetting what lies behind” in Phil 3.13 was about good things he accomplished, not past sins)

b. Compare Your Sins With Paul’s

c. **1 Timothy 1:12-14** *I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, (13) though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, (14) and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.*

III. Ways To Overcome Guilt

- A. Change Guilt Into Humility
- B. Recognize The Lie
- C. Glorify In Forgiveness
- D. A Motivation To Serve
- E. Know It Will Get Easier As You Grow
 - 1. Bad And Good Habits Are Learned
 - 2. Ability To Fight Temptation Scales With Faith

Hebrews 5:12-14

For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. (13) For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. (14) But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

Ephesians 6:16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.



Conclusion

A. Are You Ready To Be Rid Of Your Guilt?

1. Psalm 32.1-6
2. Acknowledge Your Sin To God
3. Pray To God In A Time When He Can Be Found

B. In Christ Alone Can Freedom Be Found

1. Romans 6.1-14

