Serve God's Purpose Part 8 Repent of Your Sin

"13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." (Proverbs 28:13 KJV)

David repented of his sins. The Bible recorded the sins David committed against the Lord. After committing adultery he concealed his sin by committing another sin. Not until he was rebuked, then he repented.

A. He repented of His sin of adultery that he committed with Bathsheba: "2 And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. 3 And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? 4 And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house. 5 And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child." (2 Samuel 11:2-5 KJV)

Now David tried to cover up his sin so he did the following: "6 And David sent to Joab, saying, Send me Uriah the Hittite. And Joab sent Uriah to David. 7 And when Uriah was come unto him, David demanded of him how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered. 8 And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet. And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of meat from the king. 9 But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house. 10 And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his house, David said unto Uriah, Camest thou not from thy journey? why then didst thou not go down unto thine house? 11 And Uriah said unto David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in tents; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing." (2 Samuel 11:6-11 KJV) David brought in Uriah from the battlefield so that Uriah sleeps with his wife and it would be like that she got pregnant by her own husband. But David's plan did not work over Uriah's loyalty in service.

"12 And David said to Uriah, Tarry here to day also, and to morrow I will let thee depart. So Uriah abode in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow. 13 And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house. 14 And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. 15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die. 16 And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men were. 17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also." (2 Samuel 11:12-17 KJV) Because David was covering up his sin he became unjust to Uriah, the Hittite. "26 And when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband. 27 And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD." (2 Samuel 11:26-27 KJV)

The Lord exposed what David did through His prophet Nathan. Nathan confronted and rebuked him for what he had done, and David repented of his sin: "13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. 14 Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die." (2 Samuel 12:13-14 KJV)

David's real repentance was evidently true from his heart because he accepted the Lord's discipline and the consequences of his sin. The son born to him out of adultery died. Because he let Uriah struck down by the sword, thus sword did not depart from his house. Out of his own household the Lord brought calamity upon him. God truly carried out his disciplinary action against David and David received the discipline of God. "15 And Nathan departed unto his house. And the LORD struck the child that Uriah's wife bare unto David, and it was very sick. 16 David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth. 17 And the elders of his house arose, and went to him, to raise him up from the earth: but he would not, neither did he eat bread with them. 18 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him that the child was dead: for they said, Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spake unto him, and he would not hearken unto our voice: how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead? 19 But when David saw that his servants whispered, David perceived that the child was dead: therefore David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead. 20 Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the LORD, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat." (2 Samuel 12:15-20 KJV)

As David repented and accepted God's discipline and the consequences of his sin, God enabled him to endure and David reaped the fruit of his repentance. "24 And David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in unto her, and lay with her: and she bare a son, and he called his name Solomon: and the LORD loved him. 25 And he sent by the hand of Nathan the prophet; and he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD." (2 Samuel 12:24-25 KJV) After David's full repentance, the Lord rewarded him by giving Solomon who was to succeed David as king over Israel.

David, in repentance for this sin of adultery that he committed with Bathsheba, he wrote *Psalm 51:1-19: "1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. 5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. 6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I*

shall be whiter than snow. 8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. 9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. 12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. 13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. 14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. 15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise. 16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. 18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem. 19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar."

The evidences of David's real repentance comprise in his Psalm. And these are reflections and decisive factors if you are truly repenting:

1. David knew what he did wrong and confessed his sin openly to the Lord: Do you know exactly what you have done wrong? Can you define your sin?

2. David did not blame or accuse anyone for the sin that he committed: Do you confess the sin as your own? Or are you trying to put the responsibilities of your sins upon others?

3. David asked the Lord to forgive him and have mercy on him on the basis that he will not do it that again: Are you convicted to stop sinning? Or do you want to abuse the grace of God by asking Him forgiveness but in your heart you are unwilling to turn away from sin?

4. David asked the Lord to wash away his sin and blot away his transgressions: True repentance will clearly show you how sin makes you ugly-looking person in the sight of God. This will make you move forward to request God to blot away your transgressions, so that you can stand again to serve Him. David knew how much his sin was grieving and how much the Lord was displeased. He saw his sin the way God sees it. Do you see your sins as grievous and harmful as God sees and as how he describes in His Word? Or do you sin and then you ask, 'What grievous sin have I actually done?' If your question is such as this, it shows that you haven't come to the point of real repentance and fear in God.

5. David asked the Lord to cleanse him: Do you ask God to forgive you and cleanse your heart and mind from your sin and all its effects? David requested God to wash away his sins and cleanse him from all the detrimental effects of sin in his life. As you fully repent the process of sanctification will also start in your life.

6. David asked the Lord not to cast him away from his presence: Sin will let you lose God's presence and God's favor in your life. Not confessed and not renounced sins will cause you to lose your eternity unless you repent.

7. David asked the Lord not to take the Holy Spirit from him: Your broken fellowship with God due to sin will take away the Holy Spirit from you. You may live and move without the direction of the Holy Spirit, but you cannot see the light of God to shine in your life to enable

you to see what is ahead. Unless you repent of your sins you will continue to walk in darkness.

8. David asked the Lord to create in him a pure heart and renew a steadfast spirit within him: As you repent God will do what He promised when He said, "26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them." (Ezekiel 36:26-27 KJV).

9. David asked the Lord to restore to him the joy of salvation and to grant him a willing spirit to sustain him: Lack of joy in life can be due to sin that you do not confess or renounce. Sin will take away the joy of your salvation. When you repent the Lord will restore to you the joy of His salvation. And that joy will give you the strength to go on to serve God's purpose, and to live a victorious life.

10. David knew that God will not be happy with sacrifices without repentance: Do you offer God your services, or do you give money and gifts to Godly people thinking that these things will cover your sins? David knew God and he said, "16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." (Psalm 51:16-17 KJV)

11. David promised the Lord to teach sinners God's ways: He said, "13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee." (Psalm 51:13 KJV): When you have truly repented, you are the right person to teach others. Because you will testify to them how sin destroyed you and how disobedience brought troubles in your life. After you are fully restored you will tell to others, 'I had done that sin before and I was harmed and punished, so I warn you not to do it.' It is a very important aspect of your repentance that you teach others from your own experience, how sin brought havoc in your life. Your teaching and testimony is important because people must turn away from sin. They need be warned about the consequence of sin and wrong doing, and so to fear God. They must receive the right message from you who personally experienced the venomous bites of sin until you repented.

B. David had another sin mentioned in the Bible. David did a foolish thing by giving a command to take a census of Israel: "I And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel. 2 And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it. 3 And Joab answered, The LORD make his people an hundred times so many more as they be: but, my lord the king, are they not all my lord's servants? why then doth my lord require this thing? why will he be a cause of trespass to Israel? 4 Nevertheless the king's word prevailed against Joab. Wherefore Joab departed, and went throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem. 5 And Joab gave the sum of the number of the people unto David. And all they of Israel were a thousand thousand and an hundred thousand men that drew sword: and Judah was four hundred threescore and ten thousand men that drew sword. 6 But Levi and Benjamin counted he not among them: for the king's word was abominable to Joab."

David doubted the grace and the presence of the Lord. He was counting his men as if he was the one who brought them and not acknowledging God who put him as king over them. David's action of counting the men was considered as a defect in his faith in God. He doubted the presence of God as the real King to His people. He was feeling insecure, and this led him to count his men. His attitude and command was considered as guilt. David was wrong, and even he did not take heed of Joab's explanation.

"7 And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel. 8 And David said unto God, I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly. 9 And the LORD spake unto Gad, David's seer, saying, 10 Go and tell David, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things: choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee. 11 So Gad came to David, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Choose thee 12 Either three years' famine; or three months to be destroyed before thy foes, while that the sword of thine enemies overtaketh thee; or else three days the sword of the LORD, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel. Now therefore advise thyself what word I shall bring again to him that sent me. 13 And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let me fall now into the hand of the LORD; for very great are his mercies: but let me not fall into the hand of man." (1 Chronicles 21:7-13 KJV) David repented after he realized his wrong doing. He clearly said, "I have sinned greatly, for I have done very foolishly." David also accepted to bear the consequences of his sin - "three days the sword of the LORD, even the pestilence, in the land, and the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the coasts of Israel." He chose punishment from the Lord but not willing to fall into the hands of men.

"14 So the LORD sent pestilence upon Israel: and there fell of Israel seventy thousand men. 15 And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. 16 And David lifted up his eyes, and saw the angel of the LORD stand between the earth and the heaven, having a drawn sword in his hand stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders of Israel, who were clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces. 17 And David said unto God, Is it not I that commanded the people to be numbered? even I it is that have sinned and done evil indeed; but as for these sheep, what have they done? let thine hand, I pray thee, O LORD my God, be on me, and on my father's house; but not on thy people, that they should be plagued." (1 Chronicles 21:14-17 KJV)

When the discipline of the Lord was falling upon the whole Israel, David was in full repentance seeing the bad effect of his sin upon the people. He did not justify himself or put it on someone else but acknowledged his sin before the Lord. He said, *"let thine hand, I pray thee, O LORD my God, be on me, and on my father's house; but not on thy people, that they should be plagued."*

"18 Then the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David, that David should go up, and set up an altar unto the LORD in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite. 19 And David went up at the saying of Gad, which he spake in the name of the LORD. 20 And Ornan turned back, and saw the angel; and his four sons with him hid themselves. Now Ornan was threshing wheat. 21 And as David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David, and went out of the threshingfloor, and bowed himself to David with his face to the ground. 22 Then David said to Ornan, Grant me the place of this threshingfloor, that I may build an altar therein unto the LORD: thou shalt grant it me for the full price: that the plague may be stayed from the people. 23 And Ornan said unto David, Take it to thee, and let my lord the king do that which is good in his eves: lo, I give thee the oxen also for burnt offerings, and the threshing instruments for wood, and the wheat for the meat offering; I give it all. 24 And king David said to Ornan, Nay; but I will verily buy it for the full price: for I will not take that which is thine for the LORD, nor offer burnt offerings without cost. 25 So David gave to Ornan for the place six hundred shekels of gold by weight. 26 And David built there an altar unto the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called upon the LORD; and he answered him from heaven by fire upon the altar of burnt offering. 27 And the LORD commanded the angel; and he put up his sword again into the sheath thereof. 28 At that time when David saw that the LORD had answered him in the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite, then he sacrificed there." (1 Chronicles 21:18-28 **KJV**) As David repented of his sin the Lord restored him and accepted him again. In obedience to the Word of the Lord to build an altar in the threshing floor of Araunah, he went and bought the threshing floor and there he offered sacrifices to God. After David repented, the Lord showed to him the place where to build His altar, and later on where the temple of God was to be built. "1 Then David said, This is the house of the LORD God, and this is the altar of the burnt offering for Israel." (1 Chronicles 22:1 KJV)

When David repented of his first sin God gave him Solomon, his successor king over Israel. When David repented of his second sin the Lord God showed him the place where God's temple was to be built.

Thus in the process of true repentance the following sequences are observed:

- 1. Turn away and confess your sins
- 2. Accept the discipline of the Lord
- 3. Accept to carry the consequences of your sins
- 4. Receive God's forgiveness, acceptance, and restoration
- 5. Receive God's reward for you
- 6. Receive the clear vision from God of His future plan for you

My Dear and Beloved: Righteous sacrifices will be offered to God when there is true repentance. Praise, worship, ministry, and giving without repentance do not please the Lord. Those who do such cannot mock God; the Lord will not be satisfied and will not forgive sin unless God sees that there is true repentance as was seen in David's life.

"13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." (Proverbs 28:13 KJV) You may be tempted to cover up your sins and short comings, but your condition will soon turn from bad to worse unless you fully come to repentance.

True repentance and willingness to accept God's discipline and the consequences of your sin, will pave the way for God to initiate in you the process of restoration. As David was restored you will also be restored if you truly repent and take seriously in your heart the ways of the Lord. Your true repentance will also pave the way for the temple of God to be built. When you repent of your sins you serve God's purpose and God's church is built. As you repent

today things will go better for you, and God's vision for your life will become clearer and clearer to you each day.

Let us pray

My Prayer: Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for your Word that teaches me what is repentance and what I need to do in order to be restored fully to you and to the good plan of yours to me in my life and for my ministry.

Confess and renounce now all your sins. Confess and renounce your lies, your worldliness and your love for material things. Confess and renounce your anger, fight, murder, lust, immoralities, your ways to cover up and hide your sins. Confess and renounce using money to offer sacrifices to cover up your sins. Confess and renounce your lack of the fear of God and your arrogance to do your own will. Confess and renounce your boasting, testing God, your lack of faith and your doubt on Him. Confess and renounce your bad stewardship, your yoked with many friends and non believers, and your wasting of time on the Media, News and games. Confess your lack of reading God's Word and your lack of prayers. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins _______.

Lord, I am willing to be disciplined by you and to carry the consequences of my sins. O God, according to your unfailing love and according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquities and cleanse me from my sins. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you. Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. I praise you and honor you, this is my prayer in Jesus' name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented, opened up and renounced all their sins and committed themselves to come back to you fully and accepted to bear the consequences of their sins. Lord fulfill your promise and have mercy on them according to your Word, "13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." (Proverbs 28:13 KJV) Lord uphold them with your grace and restore them fully back to you and to the good plan that you have for them. Lord as they repented and willing to bear your discipline and the consequences of their sins, restore them back to you and to the ministry and use them to teach sinners and admonish them with your Word and instructions. Lord, continue to provide for them and protect them so they will continue to serve you, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord, we ask you to bless us as your church to go on and serve you and to apply what we learned of principles in this message. Lord we commit ourselves to reproduce from fruit of the Holy Spirit; love, joy, peace, gentleness, kindness, faith, patience, long-suffering and selfcontrol. Lord continue to lead us with your Holy Spirit to do the things that you wants us to do. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts that we need to go and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Serve God's Purpose Part 8. Repent of Your Sin. Proverbs 28:13. 2 Samuel 11:2-17, 26-27. 2 Samuel 12:13-20, 24-25. Psalm 51:1-19. Ezekiel 36:26-27. 1 Chronicles 21:1-28. 1 Chronicles 22:1.

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