

Secret Sins and Public Sins

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(Sabbath during Days of Unleavened Bread)

Purpose of Today's Message:

Today I want to look at two types of sin - First, secret, personal sins and, second, public and national sins we need to be apart from, but also learn from.

Need?

During these Days of Unleavened Bread we need to focus on removing all sin!

Secret Sins

Psalms 90:8 NLT - You spread out our sins before you--our secret sins--and you see them all.

<p>Psalm 19:12 NKJV - Who can understand [his] errors? Cleanse me from secret [faults].</p> <p>Psalm 19:13 NKJV - Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous [sins]; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.</p> <p>Psalm 19:14 NKJV - Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.</p>	<p>Psalm 19:12 NLT - How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.</p> <p>Psalm 19:13 NLT - Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.</p> <p>Psalm 19:14 NLT - May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.</p>
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Three biblical examples of "secret sins":

Example of Rachel:

Genesis 31:17 NKJV - Then Jacob rose and set his sons and his wives on camels.

Genesis 31:18 NKJV - And he carried away all his livestock and all his possessions which he had gained, his acquired livestock which he had gained in Padan Aram, to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan.

Genesis 31:19 NKJV - Now Laban had gone to shear his sheep, and **Rachel had stolen the household idols that were her father's**.

Genesis 31:20 NKJV - And Jacob stole away, unknown to Laban the Syrian, in that he did not tell him that he intended to flee.

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Genesis 31:22 NKJV - And Laban was told on the third day that Jacob had fled.

Genesis 31:23 NKJV - Then he took his brethren with him and pursued him for seven days' journey, and he overtook him in the mountains of Gilead.

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Genesis 31:26 NKJV - And Laban said to Jacob: "What have you done, that you have stolen away unknown to me, and carried away my daughters like captives [taken] with the sword?"

Genesis 31:27 NKJV - "Why did you flee away secretly, and steal away from me, and not tell me; for I might have sent you away with joy and songs, with timbrel and harp?"

Genesis 31:28 NKJV - "And you did not allow me to kiss my sons and my daughters. Now you have done foolishly in [so] doing.

Genesis 31:29 NKJV - "It is in my power to do you harm, but the God of your father spoke to me last night, saying, 'Be careful that you speak to Jacob neither good nor bad.'

Genesis 31:30 NKJV - "And now you have surely gone because you greatly long for your father's house, [but] **why did you steal my gods?"**

Genesis 31:31 NKJV - Then Jacob answered and said to Laban, "Because I was afraid, for I said, 'Perhaps you would take your daughters from me by force.'

Genesis 31:32 NKJV - **"With whomever you find your gods, do not let him live. In the presence of our brethren, identify what I have of yours and take [it] with you."**
For Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen them.

There can be serious consequences for sin... or God can be merciful.

Genesis 31:33 NKJV - And Laban went into Jacob's tent, into Leah's tent, and into the two maids' tents, but he did not find [them]. Then he went out of Leah's tent and entered Rachel's tent.

Genesis 31:34 NKJV - **Now Rachel had taken the household idols**, put them in the camel's saddle, and sat on them. And Laban searched all about the tent but did not find [them].

Genesis 31:35 NKJV - And she said to her father, "Let it not displease my lord that I cannot rise before you, for the manner of women [is] with me." And he searched but did not find the household idols.

Genesis 31:36 NKJV - Then Jacob was angry and rebuked Laban, and Jacob answered and said to Laban: "What [is] my trespass? What [is] my sin, that you have so hotly pursued me?"

But this secret sin was found out, and recorded, and Rachel's name tarnished.

The example of Achan:

Setting the stage:

Joshua 6:18 NKJV - "And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

Joshua 6:19 NKJV - "But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, [are] consecrated to the LORD; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD."

Joshua 7:1 NKJV - But the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, **for Achan** the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, **took of the accursed things; so the anger of the LORD burned against the children of Israel.**

Joshua 7:6 NKJV - Then Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the LORD until evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads.

Joshua 7:10 NKJV - So the LORD said to Joshua: "Get up! Why do you lie thus on your face?"

Joshua 7:11 NKJV - "**Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant** which I commanded them. For they have even taken some of the accursed things, and have both stolen and deceived; and they have also put [it] among their own stuff.

Like the leaven of Pharisees

Luke 12:1 NKJV - In the meantime, when an innumerable multitude of people had gathered together, so that they trampled one another, He began to say to His disciples first [of all],

"Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

Luke 12:2 NKJV - "For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known.

Luke 12:3 NKJV - "Therefore whatever you have spoken in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have spoken in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the housetops.

Joshua 7:12 NKJV - "Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, [but] turned [their] backs before their enemies, because they have become doomed to destruction. Neither will I be with you anymore, unless you destroy the accursed from among you.

We need to get rid of our secret sins...

Joshua 7:15 NKJV - 'Then it shall be [that] he who is taken with the accursed thing shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has done a disgraceful thing in Israel.' "

Joshua 7:19 NKJV - Now Joshua said to Achan, "My son, I beg you, give glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession to Him, and tell me now what you have done; do not hide [it] from me."

Joshua 7:20 NKJV - And Achan answered Joshua and said, "**Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done:**

Joshua 7:21 NKJV - "When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it."

Joshua 7:24 NKJV - Then Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, the silver, the garment, the wedge of gold, his sons, his daughters, his oxen, his donkeys, his sheep, his tent, and all that he had, and they brought them to the Valley of Achor.

Joshua 7:25 NKJV - And Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? The LORD will trouble you this day." So all Israel stoned him with stones; and they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones.

Joshua 7:26 NKJV - Then they raised over him a great heap of stones, still there to this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of His anger. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Achor [Trouble] to this day.

Example of David:

2 Samuel 11:2 NKJV - Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman [was] very beautiful to behold.

2 Samuel 11:3 NKJV - So David sent and inquired about the woman. And [someone] said, "[Is] this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"

2 Samuel 11:4 NKJV - Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house.

2 Samuel 11:27 NKJV - And when her mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. **But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.**

But David repented!

Psalms 51:1 NKJV - To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. **Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.**

Psalms 51:2 NKJV - Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.

Psalms 51:3 NKJV - **For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin [is] always before me.**

Psalms 51:4 NKJV - Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done [this] evil in Your sight--That You may be found just when You speak, [And] blameless when You judge.

Psalms 51:5 NKJV - Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.

Psalms 51:6 NKJV - Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden [part] You will make me to know wisdom.

Psalms 51:7 NKJV - Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psalms 51:8 NKJV - Make me hear joy and gladness, [That] the bones You have broken may rejoice.

Psalms 51:9 NKJV - Hide Your face from my sins, **And blot out all my iniquities.**

Psalms 51:10 NKJV - **Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

Psalms 51:11 NKJV - Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

Psalms 51:12 NKJV - Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me [by Your] generous Spirit.

Psalms 51:13 NKJV - [Then] I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You.

Psalms 51:14 NKJV - **Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, [And] my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.**

Psalms 51:15 NKJV - O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

Psalms 51:16 NKJV - For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give [it]; You do not delight in burnt offering.

Psalms 51:17 NKJV - The sacrifices of God [are] a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart--These, O God, You will not despise.

Solomon writes of God's mercy... possibly remembering the sins of his father & mother:

Proverbs 28:4 NKJV - Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, But such as keep the law contend with them.

Proverbs 28:9 NKJV - One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, Even his prayer [is] an abomination.

Proverbs 28:13 NKJV - He who covers his sins will not prosper, **But whoever confesses and forsakes [them] will have mercy.**

Psalms 32:1 NKJV - Blessed [is he whose] transgression [is] forgiven, [Whose] sin [is] covered.

Psalms 32:2 NKJV - Blessed [is] the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit [there is] no deceit.

Psalms 32:5 NKJV - I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

1 John 1:9 NKJV - If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 2:1 NKJV - My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

1 John 2:2 NKJV - And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

NLT: He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins—and not only our sins but the sins of all the world.

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1 John 2:12 NKJV - I write to you, little children, Because your sins are forgiven you for His name's sake.

Psalms 103:8 KJV - The LORD [is] merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

Psalms 103:9 KJV - He will not always chide: neither will he keep [his anger] for ever.

Psalms 103:10 KJV - He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

Psalms 103:11 KJV - For as the heaven is high above the earth, [so] great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

Psalms 103:12 KJV - As far as the east is from the west, [so] far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalms 103:13 KJV - Like as a father pitieth [his] children, [so] the LORD pitieth them that fear him.

Psalms 103:14 KJV - For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we [are] dust.

Psalms 103:17 KJV - But the mercy of the LORD [is] from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

As God to gently show you your secret sins so your can repent of them and be completely clean and pure before God!

Public Sins

From my letter last night:

As the world around us is focused on campus demonstrations, court cases, the thunder storms and tornadoes, it is important that as we celebrate the days of unleavened bread we keep our mind on the spiritual meaning of eliminating sin in our lives. Although what is going on in the world being reported in news can be a distraction, I would like to suggest asking the following questions as you see or read news stories:

- *How much sin (breaking of God's laws) is involved in the news story?*
- *What would the scenario be if all individuals were obeying God's commandments?*
- *How different would the end results be if people had God's Holy Spirit and exercised it rather than letting their human nature run unchecked?*

In the book of Galatians Paul breaks down what happens when people don't follow the biblical principles:

Galatians 5:14 NKJV - For all the law is fulfilled in one word, [even] in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Galatians 5:15 NKJV - But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

The New Living Translations says at the end of verse 15 "...beware of destroying one another."

Unfortunately we are witnessing the results of the majority of our nation casting off the teachings of the Bible and doing their "own thing", which results in the sad and terrible actions we witness in the news. We are witnessing our nation destroying itself.

As we contrast God's way with what we are witnessing around us, I hope it motivates us to be all the more diligent in putting sin out of our lives, and replacing it with the fruits of God's holy spirit! The world needs a positive example. With the help of God's holy spirit we can be the example the world needs of a much better way to live.

Open your eyes to the results of sin in the society around us and use that as motivation to put sin out! Both this week and in the weeks to come!

Isaiah 59:1 NKJV - Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear.

Isaiah 59:2 NKJV - **But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden [His] face from you, So that He will not hear.**

Isaiah 59:3 NKJV - For your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken lies, Your tongue has muttered perversity.

Isaiah 59:4 NKJV - No one calls for justice, Nor does [any] plead for truth. They trust in empty words and speak lies; They conceive evil and bring forth iniquity.

Isaiah 59:5 NKJV - They hatch vipers' eggs and weave the spider's web; He who eats of their eggs dies, And [from] that which is crushed a viper breaks out.

Isaiah 59:6 NKJV - Their webs will not become garments, Nor will they cover themselves with their works; Their works [are] works of iniquity, And the act of violence [is] in their hands.

Isaiah 59:7 NKJV - Their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed innocent blood; Their thoughts [are] thoughts of iniquity; Wasting and destruction [are] in their paths.

Isaiah 59:8 NKJV - The way of peace they have not known, And [there is] no justice in their ways; They have made themselves crooked paths; Whoever takes that way shall not know peace.

Isaiah 59:9 NKJV - Therefore justice is far from us, Nor does righteousness overtake us; We look for light, but there is darkness! For brightness, [but] we walk in blackness!

Isaiah 59:10 NKJV - We grope for the wall like the blind, And we grope as if [we had] no eyes; We stumble at noonday as at twilight; [We are] as dead [men] in desolate places.

Isaiah 59:11 NKJV - We all growl like bears, And moan sadly like doves; We look for justice, but [there is] none; **For salvation, [but] it is far from us.**

Isaiah 59:12 NKJV - For our transgressions are multiplied before You, And our sins testify against us; For our transgressions [are] with us, And [as for] our iniquities, we know them:

Isaiah 59:13 NKJV - In transgressing and lying against the LORD, And departing from our God, Speaking oppression and revolt, Conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood.

Isaiah 59:14 NKJV - Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter.

Isaiah 59:15 NKJV - So truth fails, And he [who] departs from evil makes himself a prey. **Then the LORD saw [it], and it displeased Him** That [there was] no justice.

Isaiah 59:16 NKJV - He saw that [there was] no man, And wondered that [there was] no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him.

Picturing God and Christ getting suited up to punish the nations:

Isaiah 59:17 NKJV - For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak.

Isaiah 59:18 NKJV - According to [their] deeds, accordingly He will repay, Fury to His adversaries, Recompense to His enemies; The coastlands He will fully repay.

Isaiah 59:19 NKJV - So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him.

But God is merciful to those who turn from sin!

Isaiah 59:20 NKJV - "The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," Says the LORD.

Isaiah 59:21 NKJV - "As for Me," says the LORD, "this [is] My covenant with them: My Spirit who [is] upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants' descendants," says the LORD, "from this time and forevermore."

Let us be motivated to remove all sin from our lives!

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