

YOUR GUILT AND GOD'S GRACE LIVING FREE OF FEAR - Part 10

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"Perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment." I John 4:18
(Phillips) "... fear always contains some of the torture of feeling guilty."

Fears Caused By Guilt

- ... that I'll be found out.
- ... that I'll be rejected by others.
- ... that someone will retaliate for what I've done.
- ... that God is going to judge me.

I. WHAT WE USUALLY DO WITH OUR GUILT

1. WE _____.

"You will never succeed in life if you try to hide your sins." Pr. 28:13 (GN)

David: "... I wouldn't admit (my guilt). But my dishonesty made me miserable and filled my days with frustration. My strength evaporated... until I finally admitted all my sins and stopped trying to hide them."
Ps. 32:3-5 (LB)

2. WE _____.

"Yes," Adam admitted, but it was the woman You gave me who brought me some, and I ate it."

Gen. 3:12 (LB)

"People's own foolishness ruins their lives, but in their minds they blame the Lord." Pr. 19:3 (NCV)

3. WE _____ UP.

"My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear... I am bowed down and brought low; all day long I go about mourning." Psalm 38

II. WHAT WE SHOULD DO WITH MY GUILT

1. _____ IT

"The Lord gave us a mind and a conscience. We cannot hide from ourselves." Pr. 20:27 (GN)

"Let us examine our ways and test them..." Lam. 3:40

2. _____ **RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT**

"I recognize my faults. I am conscious of my sins.." Ps. 51:3

"Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16 (LB)

3. _____ **GOD TO FORGIVE IT**

"If we freely admit that we have sinned, we find God utterly reliable... He forgives our sins and makes us thoroughly clean from all that is evil." I John 1:9 (Ph)

"All of us have sinned... yet God declares us 'not guilty' IF we trust in Jesus Christ, who in mercy freely takes away our sins." Rom. 3:23-24 (LB)

III. WHAT GOD WANTS TO DO WITH MY GUILT: (If we ask God for forgiveness, God will do the following)

* He forgives me _____.

"God is merciful and quick to forgive." Isa. 55:7 (GN)

* He forgives me _____.

"He has forgiven ALL your sins. He has utterly wiped out the evidence of broken commandments which always hung over our heads, and has completely annulled it by nailing it to the cross!" Col. 2:13-14 (Ph)

* He forgives me _____.

(Christ)... is always interceding on our behalf." Heb. 7:25 (Ph)

* He forgives me _____.

"For by the sacrificial death of Christ we are SET FREE, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the GRACE of God!" Eph. 1:7 (GN)

"What happiness for those whose guilt has been forgiven! What relief for those who ... God has cleared their record!" Ps. 32:1-2 (LB)