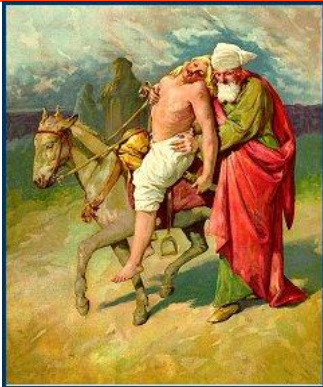


New Horizons Newsletter



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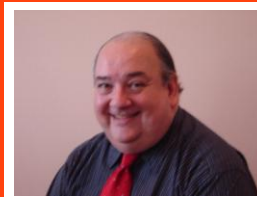
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ISSUE

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"May the Lord show you His favor and give you peace."

(Nu. 6:26)

ARE YOU WEEPING OR CELEBRATING OVER YOUR SINS?

By Dr. Pierre J. Samaan

"My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law." (Psalm 119:136 NASB)

Unfortunately, when I think back on my youth, I will most often think of those behaviors that led me into trouble. In fact, we will most often think of past negative events because they leave a stronger chemical imprint in the mind's brain cells. Also, what makes bad behavior more memorable are the consequences we suffered for those "stupid" things we did. "What was I thinking!"

When I was a child, I wept in sorrow because I felt guilt or shame for my misbehavior and for disappointing my parents. Adolescents or adults who have maintained a healthy conscience do not celebrate their sins, they weep upon the knowledge of their wrong doing. The acknowledgment of misbehavior/sin results in repentance – remorse and changed behavior.

The Bible tells us that sin is a thought or action that breaks the law of God (Isaiah 59:1-8). The Biblical laws are rules that God has given us to live like Him and stay safe from judgment. If we do sin, there must be a judgment or consequence (Romans 6:23). If not, God would be allowing sin, which goes against His very nature of holiness and righteousness – having no sin. This is why the Messiah Jesus Christ had to die for all sins (1 Peter 2:24). Believers in Jesus Christ will not be judged for sins because Christ's shed blood washed away the evidence of all sin (John 3:16).

Early in my ministry, I visited a young youth minister in the hospital. His church pastor asked me to help him regarding his personal relationship problems. It so happened that as I was walking into his hospital room, he was being discharged and was in the process of packing his belongings. I introduced myself and explained that his senior pastor was concerned about his inability to relate to the parents in the church. He smiled and gave me thanks for coming, but he made it obvious he was more interested in leaving than taking twenty minutes to talk.

I thought to myself, why did God have me come to visit this young man who obviously was more interested in his own agenda – self-centered. Just then, a young nurse came into the room.

It was not hard to miss the young pastor's pupils dilating as he put a large smile on his face. No sooner had she walked through the door, he began flirting with her. He was so focused on the nurse, I believe he completely forgot that I was in the room, watching his not so righteous behavior.

God wanted me to see this young man in action. In church, according to his pastor, this young man seemed disinterested in practicing what he was teaching the church youth. When the nurse left the room, I said to him, "What was that all about?" He turned back to me and made a gesture as though she was "hot stuff," before returning to packing his belongings. I began to talk with him about the fact that the nursing staff knew he was a church youth pastor. What kind of message was he giving by acting that way? He said he did not realize he was being so obvious.

21 for we have regard for what is honorable, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men. (2 Corinthians 8:21 NASB)

One of the characteristics of repetitive sin is that we begin to rationalize or justify why it is alright to think or behave in a sinful manner. Before we know it, we are believing our own lies. At this point, the person is in denial, which is also called sincere delusion. This youth pastor had been practicing "chasing skirts" for so long, he thought it was normal behavior. Like any addiction, he could not see that it was consuming him.

18 For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ, 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things. Philippians 3:18-19 (NASB)

Pray About Being a Prayer Partner & Financial Supporter

EPIGRAM

- Millionaires who laugh are rare. My Experience is that wealth is apt to take the smiles away. - Andrew Carnegie
- Happiness is a two way station between too much and too little. - Channing Pollock
- Some of us do not believe we are having a good time unless we are doing something we can't afford.
- Money will buy a fine dog, but only love will make him wag his tail.
- Money makes strangers.
- The poorest man I know is the man who has nothing but money.- John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
- It is known that Lincoln had no great admiration for mere financial success. "Financial success," he once said, "is purely metallic. The man who gains it has four metallic attributes: gold in his palm, silver on his tongue, brass in his face, and iron in his heart!"
- Upon the statue of Joseph Brotherton is the inscription, "A man's riches consist not in the amount of his wealth, but in the fewness of his wants."



➤ The late Robert Horton said the greatest lesson he learned from life was that people who set their minds and hearts on money are equally disappointed whether they get it or whether they don't.¹

Please Pray For . . .

- Pray for Christian brothers and sisters affected by the aftermath of the tornadoes, floods, and fires in the U.S. and the Japanese earthquake. Please give your donations to Christian relief organizations.
- Please pray for all the Christian Counseling clients. God is good, all the time!
- Pray for your church Pastors and staff.
- Pray for Federal, state, and local governments (they need all the help they can get).
- Pray for your children and family.
- Pray for your spouse.

New Horizons Institute of Counseling/ United Brethren Counseling Ministry

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"Seeking True Recovery to Replace Pain With Healing Peace."

*Clinical Christian Counseling/Clinical Pastoral Counseling is crisis intervention and strengthening of Christian character and values, which is Discipleship. Our Ordained and Professional Clinical Christian Counselors are committed to the welfare of the Christian. Clients are encouraged to take advantage of their own church programs as part of their Christian Counseling Treatment Plan. We are credentialed professionals who must follow state confidentiality guidelines. **This is not church Lay Counseling in which your confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.***

Professional Clinical Christian Counseling will help the client, couple, or family move beyond

¹ Tan, Paul Lee, (1991) *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations*, p 830, Twelfth Printing, Bible Communications, Garland, TX.

*tolerable existence into genuine inner healing, renewal, and wholeness through the work of God's Holy Spirit in the counseling.**

Tolerable recovery is the process of getting better. True recovery says, "I made it!" This is when I can look at the source of my pain - which has become a stronghold - and realize it has been replaced with God's healing peace - Replacing the source pain with God's Truth.

*Clinical Christian Counselors are exempt from Florida State Licensing, Statute 491.014. All Christian counselors at New Horizons Institute of Counseling are Ordained Clergy, Board Certified & Licensed by the National Board of Examiners of the National Christian Counselors Association. We serve under the authorities of our licensing boards and the Pastor and Board of the UB church.

NEW RESEARCH FINDINGS

[The Biology Behind Alcohol-Induced Blackouts](#)

A person who drinks too much alcohol may be able to perform complicated tasks, such as dancing, carrying on a conversation or even driving a car, but later have no memory of those escapades. These periods of amnesia, commonly known as "blackouts," can last from a few minutes to several hours. Read full article at:

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/releases/230582.php>

Mixing Red Bull And Alcohol To Stay Awake At Parties Can Be A Dangerous Combination

Believe it or not, your body knows when and how much alcohol you are drinking and sends out cues when you should stop for the evening and get some rest. Many people try to combat this by drinking popular energy drinks with their favorite happy beverage, however a new study shows that when mixing liquor with other substances, such these "rocket fuels," your brain actually shuts off these natural cues that protect you from making mistakes in judgment. Read full article at:

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/222720.php>

[Sports Help Lower Aggression; Enhance Self Control And Discipline In Boys](#)

Not only do sports help children's physical health, sports participation also improves their emotional, behavioral and cognitive well-being, researchers from Tel Aviv University, Israel reported. Read full article at:

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/230662.php>

Love Study: Brain Reacts To Heartbreak Same As Physical Pain

Love hurts, and that is not just a saying for the broken hearted. Heartbreak is a very strange distress. It is exquisitely painful, and yet we cannot find an injury on our body. New research finds that when you reminisce about the one that got away, the brain actually triggers sensations that you also feel in times of "real" physical pain, making heartbreak truly, physically painful to add to the emotional distress it sometimes causes. Read full article at:

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/220427.php>

***To read the full article, click or copy and paste the URL. The articles are for informational & educational use only. The released studies are not necessarily a reflection of beliefs of this ministry.**