

Be Sure Your Sin Will Find You Out!

by Wayne Goff

Man has been running away from God in an attempt to hide his sin ever since the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:8). At least this shows a conscience on the part of the one who tries to hide. The apostle Paul spoke of some who gloried in their shame (Philippians 3:19)! But God always finds out our sins, and we can never hide them from Him.

Jesus warns those who try to hide their sins: *“For nothing is secret that will not be revealed, nor anything hidden that will not be known and come to light”* (Luke 8:17). Many who have pet sins proclaim that they do not care who sees, but they continue to try to hide them by moving away from family, doing things anonymously in the big city, and cultivating friends who will keep their secret. But God still sees everything.

The tribes of Reuben and Gad asked permission to have their land East of the Jordan River. God consented but required them to first help the other tribes secure their possessions on the West side. God warned that *“...if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out”* (Numbers 32:23). Sooner or later one has to pay for his sins, shortcomings, and failures. God does not forget.

After Solomon’s lifelong pursuit of the reason for *“life under the sun”* recorded in the book of Ecclesiastes, he realized that life without God is meaningless. He then pointed his readers to God Himself and proclaimed that it was not only good, but essential, because *“God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil”* (Ecclesiastes 12:14). Every secret thing will be brought to judgment. Man cannot hide from God.

*“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is **no creature hidden from His sight**, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account”* (Hebrews 4:13).

We sometimes sing the song that states “there’s an all-seeing eye watching you.” And so there is. But man desires to **sin without consequence**, and thus continues to **ignore** God’s word of warning.

The Seven Churches Of Asia

To the seven churches of Asia Minor in the first century, God wrote, *“I **know** your works,...”* (Rev. 2:3, 9, 13, 19; 3:2, 8, 15). For better or worse, for good or ill, God knows what we are doing, both as individuals and as churches. How much better is it to stop running from God, and instead draw near to Him?

James admonished *“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded”* (James 4:8). *“Cleanse your hands”* means to “stop sinning.” And *“purify your hearts”* means to “stop thinking about sinning.” Do these two things and perhaps the desire to pursue God will come to you!

Remember, sin never satisfies (Ephesians 4:17-19). It creates an unquenchable thirst for more sin. Given time, it enslaves the person and drains every bit of life, love and goodness out of them. So, dear reader, repent of your sins **today**, and turn your life around to God. You know you have to start some time. Why not now? If you refuse, a great day of embarrassing judgment awaits!

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