

THE SURE MERCIES OF DAVID

23/6/13

The death and resurrection of Christ enabled God to introduce a far better covenant, than the one it replaced. Our covenant begins with the personal anointing (indwelling) of the Holy Spirit. Due to the frailty of human beings, a system is also needed that can successfully deal with our failings and vulnerabilities. To meet these needs, God introduced a covenant dominated by grace and mercy. Mercy =Not getting the judgment you deserve. Grace=Getting forgiveness and blessing you don't deserve. Interestingly enough, God included one of the great, yet little understood blessings of the Old Testament for our ongoing benefit. This mechanism that keeps us free from our shortcomings is called 'the sure mercies of David'. These mercies are comprised of deliverance from our enemies and deliverance from ourselves... we no longer need to be victims to anything.

The vital combination of Grace and the mercy of David, are only possible through us being divorced (legally set apart) from the law. ROM 7:1 Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? ***2*** For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to *her* husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of *her* husband. ***3*** So then if, while *her* husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. ***4*** Wherefore, my brethren, **ye also are become dead to the law** by the body of Christ; that ye should be **married to another**, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should **bring forth fruit unto God**. *The law did not provide mercy as a right... so how was mercy obtained at that time?*

What sins did David commit, that required mercy? 1KIN 15:5 ...David did *that which* was right in the eyes of the LORD, and turned not aside from any *thing* that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only in the **matter of Uriah the Hittite**. *David was guilty of murder, adultery, etc... all required the death penalty.*

What does the Law say about mercy and how were the sure mercies of David scripturally established?

2SAM 7:15 But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took *it* from Saul, whom I put away before thee. *Due to his attitude, David was able to establish mercy as a God given right for God's people. How did he do it?*

ACT 13:22 ...I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall **fulfil all my will**. *Despite his failings, David had a faithful ambition to serve God the way God wanted to be served.*

PSA 25:10 All the paths of the LORD (the common direction) are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies. *David also revealed that mercy and the forgiveness of sins that would normally result in a death sentence, could be safely managed. Following God's covenant directions makes mercy workable. 300 years later Isaiah is still extolling the certainty of forgiveness via the sure mercies of David...*

ISA 55:3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: **hear, and your soul shall live**; and I will make an **everlasting covenant** with you, even **the sure** (certain) **mercies of David**. *This mercy was seen as a covenant promise.*

ACT 13:33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. **34** And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, *now* no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, **I will give you the sure mercies of David**. *God has combined the sure mercies of David with his grace, to give us the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We are now in a perfect situation where we can overcome all challenges... all failings.*

A new and living way is offered... *What we have is better in many ways... a better hope (Heb 7:19), a better testament (Heb 7:22), a better covenant with better promises (Heb 8:6), better sacrifices (Heb 9:23), better substance (inheritance Heb 10:34).* **HEB 4:16** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain **mercy, and find grace to help in time of need**. *What did David say he would do if he was forgiven?... that is the key to the reason why God provided this remarkable promise. Our calling is to do what David said so long ago...* **PSA 51:12** 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. *Do Likewise!*

**** The opportunity to obtain forgiveness is not our weakest link. Rather, understanding and offering the sure mercies of David is one of the greatest stumbling blocks of our times. There may be consequences for our sins in the natural world, but the family of God is required to willingly and faithfully, offer the full benefits of the covenant that Jesus died for. Anything less is offensive to Christ. We are to use this freedom wisely... all of us. HEB 9:14*** **How much more** shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your **conscience from dead works** (all sin) to **serve** (present tense) the living God?

Some Extra Observations Relating To The Sure Mercies Of David... this is by no means a completed article.

The mechanics of the law has been superseded, but not the requirements... fortunately we have a wonderful solution. The anointing of the Spirit has placed us in the presence of our great high priest, who is always interceding and advocating on our behalf. Without the Holy Spirit we are still under the law, without the grace and ongoing mercy that Jesus made possible.

*The sure mercies of David are an everlasting covenant; not a once off event... see Isaiah and Acts above. The story of King Manasseh (who was a terrible king), enjoyed the same mercy as David, despite his sin filled life. **2CHR 33:12** And when he was in affliction, he besought the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, **13** And prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God. If you read 2Kings 21:1-18, you will see that his sins were much worse than David's, yet he was forgiven and restored while under the law. He lived about three hundred years after David. He also enjoyed the mercy that Isaiah spoke of round about the same time.*

*A legalistic approach to the Spirit will be fatal to those deceived thereby. **2COR 3:6** Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the **letter**, but of the spirit: for the **letter killeth**, but the spirit giveth life.*

*Thinking we are free to do whatever we want, then repent later... is also spiritually flawed and can be equally fatal. We are not free to sin, but sin will still not have dominion over us. We should keep trusting in the Lord to forgive us and direct our life. **1JOH 2:1** My little children, these things write I unto you, **that ye sin not**. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:*

Does it make sense that a parent (God) would pay such a high price (Jesus Christ) to save the life of a child (us) then abandon them as adults for the same sickness? The prodigal son parable reveals the folly of thinking like the older brother. Let's keep in mind that there is a big difference between sins that occur along the way as we serve God, as opposed to abandoning our walk and going back to the world.

James describes the reality of sin... no matter what it is.

JAM 2: 10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is **guilty of all** (if a window has a small hole in the corner, or a big hole in the middle... the whole window is broken. We are not in a position to determine what God will forgive and when he might forgive it). **11** For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law (further evidence that any sin is still sin... a default in the contract of salvation). **12** So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty (God has given us the ability to cleanse ourselves from sin). **13** For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment. If we don't offer mercy when requested, then it will not be offered to us... thus our 'small' sin makes us just as guilty as the 'big' sins of others... so to speak.

*Immorality is not singled out as being any harder to forgive than any other sins (although the consequences may be quite painful). Also, the marriage contract and the salvation contract are two separate agreements... defaulting in one, does not automatically cancel out the other. For those who take a high minded attitude to immorality as opposed to other sins, consider the following verse... **MAT 5:28** But I say unto you, That whosoever **looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart**. How do we fare when scriptural principles are applied God's way? We will be judged by the same measure we use to judge others... like it or not. Remember, any sin breaches the whole law and needs to be equally dealt with. **1JOH 1:8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

Warning to all.

A great barrier to forgiveness and restitution, is the myth that forgiveness automatically eliminates any consequences for our actions. The consequences of repented sin should not come from God, nor the family of God under our current covenant. In the parable of the prodigal son, the older brother demanded consequences; his father rejected this attitude. Some people suffer the affects of poor health, divorce, jail time, etc, from personal failings. We may have to live with these negatives, but we can still trust God to honour his word. Consequences from repented sin are not an indication that a person isn't saved or that God is angry with the individual.

Giving up on God and living an abandoned life is fatal and can never be forgiven, unless it too, is repented of. There is no other mechanism outside of confessed, sincere repentance that can correct any of our failings. Likewise, we are bound to offer the same mercy to others that we expect from God ourselves... quite simple really.