

## Pt 2 - **God's Restoring Grace**

*"God's remedy for guilt!"*

### ...Theme

We don't become the person God wants us to be through guilt. We become the person God wants us to be through His grace. We need to recognize God is gracious and He wants to shower His grace upon us. Why? Because we deserve it? **No!** Because He loves us? **Yes!**

### ... The reality of guilt

**Romans 3:23** (tlb) - *Yes, **all** have sinned; **all** fall short of God's glorious ideal.*

**James 2:10** (tlb) - *The person who keeps every law of God but makes one **little slip** is just as **guilty** as the person who has broken every law there is.*

**Psalms 51:3** (amp) - *For I am **conscious** of my transgressions and I **acknowledge** them; my sin is ever before me.*

**Psalms 40:12** (amp) - *For innumerable evils have compassed me about; my iniquities have taken such **hold on me** that I am not able to look up. They are more than the hairs of my head, and my heart has **failed me** and **forsaken me**.*

**Psalms 38:4** (niv) - *My guilt has **overwhelmed** me like a burden too **heavy** to bear.*

**Genesis 3:7-13** (niv)

There are three ways here that indicate how Adam and Eve responded, and how their response is common today.

**With Shame** (*insecurity*).

**With Fear** (*inferiority and inadequacy*).

**With Blame** (*irresponsibility*).

The purpose of guilt is not just to make us feel bad. Guilt is actually a warning sign that something is wrong.

### ... How to tell the difference between good (genuine) and bad (false) guilt.

- **There is GOOD** (*genuine*) **guilt.**

Good and genuine guilt results from the fact that we've hurt ourselves, hurt others, and hurt the heart of God.

- **That is BAD** (*false*) **guilt.**

False guilt usually comes from an overactive conscience.

The mission of a person's overactive conscience is to attract the expectations of others.

We carry false guilt many times because we just can't get past your past.

There are three tests that will help us discern between genuine guilt or false guilt.

Is it vague or is it specific?

Does it lead us to god or away from God?

Does it result in forgiveness or condemnation?

Whatever kind of guilt we're dealing with - true guilt/false guilt - we've got ways of dealing with it and God's got ways of dealing with it.

### **... How God wipes out our guilt and helps us start over again – “the grace remedy!”**

**1 John 1:9** (nlt) - *If we **confess** our sins ... He is **faithful** and just ... and will **forgive** us our sins and **purify** us from all unrighteousness.*

- **Confess our sins to God!**

What does that word sin mean? Sin is all about **"I"**.

**Psalms 32:5a**

When it comes to sin we do one of two things - cover up or face up.

**Psalm 69:5** (tlb) - *O God, You **know** so well how stupid I am, and You, **know all** my sins.*

We might as well tell God, He already knows.

**James 5:16**

The Bible also encourages us to also tell a trusted friend.

It also brings accountability when someone else knows! See **Galatians 6:1**

- **Trust God's Faithful Character.**

Many people confess their sins but really never get to know the God who is forgiving them.

**Hebrews 2:17** (niv) - *...a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God...*

**Hebrews 4:16**

**1 John 2:1**

**Hebrews 10:22**

### **... Take home point**

**We don't become the person God wants us to be through guilt. We become the person God wants us to be through His grace.**