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THE BIBLE VIEW

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Payday will be Someday

Bill Brinkworth

“Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.” Ecclesiastes 8:11

The small, but quick, ocelot exited his barred cage, and strutted down the penned hallway. Past the leopards he went. A quick snarl stirred the dozing tigers, as he continued past their prisons.

Just before he got to the yard where he would bask in the sun, and attempt to chase darting birds, he stopped at the cage of an aged lion, hopelessly staring out through the bars from his cage. The small cat snarled aggressively at the 550-pound African killer, but there was nothing the King of Beasts could do from his captivity. After a while, the 20-pound South American predator moved on to get his breath of fresh, outside air.

For months, the small, wiry bully daily passed the sedate beast. Sometimes the lion was growled at. Sometimes the small feline’s quick swipes made contact with the lion,

leaving small slices in the beast's thick coat. Blood was sometimes drawn, giving the smaller predator more confidence in his ability to attack his penned enemy; knowing that he was safe, as the lion was behind bars.

One day, as was his habit, the ocelot continued his attack on the beast. He snarled. He lashed out at the giant predator with his much smaller claws. However, on that day and unbeknownst to the aggressor, things were different. The King of the Jungle's cage door was open.

Without any warning to the smaller feline, the big cat quickly pounced, swiping his massive paws at the smaller enemy. It took one swipe, and the lion got his revenge, as clawed weapons swiped the ocelot's head from off his body. The little feline never knew what killed him.

A bloody, gruesome story, but it is not unlike what so many people experience. They believe, because they can get away with sin once, twice, and maybe for years, that they are then exempt from any repercussions from their sinful activity.

Wrong! No one gets away with any sin. Lightning may not strike the child when he lied to his parent. A teenager may not have been thrown into jail when he did not get caught damaging another's property. One's short drinking binge did not land him in a rehab. A husband's peeking at pornography on the internet was not observed by his wife.

There are, however, always repercussions of sin; maybe not at the time of commission, but they will come. Sin has

its wages — someday! If not in this life, there will be regrets in the next.

One doing a long prison term usually did not get there from one crime. Most likely small sins desensitized his conscience, allowing him to do more and more; until one day he was caught.

A married man may have taken private, second looks at other women; maybe a glance or two at a friend's pornography. Before long, the wages of an adulterous relationship resulted in a divorce, breaking the hearts of the wife and children.

Lying lips may have told a little "white lie". Since there were no apparent repercussions, the sin was easier to commit the second, third, and many, many more times. Years later the liar looked around and realized that he was friendless and lonely, because all those that trusted him had fled because of his dishonesty and deceit.

On and on the list of repercussions of sin can go. Each of us most likely has experienced the unwelcome, unexpected side effects of our own sins. We have also seen its wages in others' lives. No one gets away from sins consequences. There will be a payday someday for our sin. Flee sin now, while there is still an opportunity to escape regrets that may come too soon!

"Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy."

Proverbs 6:15

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” Galatians 6:7

Seven Losses When a Christian Sins

Willmington's Book of Bible Lists

- The loss of light
“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.” I John 1:6
- The loss of joy
“Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.” Psalm 51:12
- The loss of righteousness
“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law ... 10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.” I John 3:4-10
- The loss of love for the brethren
“No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.” I John 4:12
- The loss of fellowship
“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” I John 1:6-7
- The loss of confidence

“And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. 20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God ...” I John 3:19-22

- The possible loss of health and even physical life
“For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.” I Cor. 11:30

Why God Hates Sin

Bill Brinkworth

When working with young people in the past, I often had to get them to deal with the sin in their lives. Sin was usually the culprit behind most problems they had. After discussing the wrongdoing they were involved in, and what the Bible said about it, I sometimes heard the remark, “Oh, God just doesn’t want me to have any fun.”

The reason God wants all to keep away from sin has nothing to do with prohibiting us from any fun. His reason is that sin always hurts someone; that is why God hates sin so much. Getting involved in iniquity ruins marriages, robs people of joy, shortens lives, destroys and wastes futures, causes physical problems, short circuits proper thinking, and has thousands of other terrible side-effects. No wonder God hates sin so much!

There is also another very important reason why God hates sin. God knows that there is a terrible price tag on all sin. Unless one’s sin is paid for by trusting only on the

sacrifice of Jesus' shed blood, there is an eternal price for our iniquities.

Just as one works all week, and expects a wage for his labors at the end of the time, so will it be at the end of our lives. For the unsaved, the wage for their sins will be an eternity in hell. That is very sad news, but there can be good news. The good news is that there is a gift from God that will get all sinners, that believe and request it, an eternal life in heaven. That gift is receiving Christ as Saviour.

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Romans 6:23.

“You can make choices freely, but you cannot determine the consequences of those choices.”

— Barbara Brinkworth

Sin Versus Leprosy

John Bates, 1871

- Leprosy was small in its beginning and spreading in its tendency; so is sin!
- Leprosy was loathsome and defiling in its nature; so is sin.
- Leprosy was incurable by human agency. The priest could teach the law concerning a cure. The leper could observe the law, but only the invisible intervention of God could effect a cure; so it is with sin.

- Leprosy was fatal in its consequences if uncured by God; so is sin.