

“When Guilt Is Good”

Lesson Text: **Psalm 119:71.**

I. What Is Guilt & Why Do We Have It?

- **Guilt:** refers to the sense of having done something wrong. It is a state of being guilty before God or a state of being guilty or ashamed before people and community. (DiFransico, L. (2014). *Guilt*. In D. Mangum, D. R. Brown, R. Klippenstein, & R. Hurst (Eds.), *Lexham Theological Wordbook*.)
- When We Are Guilty Of Sin- **Ezekiel 18:19-20; Ezra 10:10-12.**
- If We Have A Conscience Of Right And Wrong, A Tender Heart, And A Strong Desire To Please God— Then, We Properly Have Feelings Of Guilt.
- Guilt Brings Shame, Remorse, Regret, Disgrace, Weeping, & Mourning.
 - Ezra Mourned For Israel’s Sin- **Ezra 10:6.**
 - Peter Wept Bitterly- **Matthew 26:75.**

II. Guilt Can Lead Us To Repentance.

- **2 Corinthians 7:8-11.** It Gets Us To Do The Right Thing— Repent!
- **Acts 2:37-38.**
- **Acts 8:18-24.**

III. Guilt Can Be Deterrent From Committing Sin.

- **Deterrent:** a thing that discourages or is intended to discourage someone from doing something.
- When We Know That Sin Will Bring Us Shame And Guilt, We Should Avoid It!
- Why We Preach On The Awfulness Of Sin! “Pull No Punches!” In Boldness With Love.
 - **Ephesians 6:19-20; Ephesians 4:15.**
- Why The Unrepentant Will Avoid Going To Church To Hear Sermons On Sin.
 - **John 3:19-20; John 16:7-8; Acts 24:24-25.**

IV. Guilt Can Give Us A Heart That Desires To Please God.

- **Psalm 51:7-10; Ezekiel 18:30-31.**
- **Luke 7:36-48.**
- What If We Harden Our Heart To Our Guilt? **Ephesians 4:19; Proverbs 29:1.**

V. Guilt Can Keep Us From Arrogance And Pride.

- **Luke 18:13-14.** The Tax Collector’s Guilt Humbled Him Before God!
- **Luke 7:44.** She Was Also A Great Example Of Humility!

VI. We Should All Seek To Be Free From Guilt— From Sin...

- **1 Peter 3:20-21.**
- It’s Why Jesus Says, “*He who believes and is baptized will be saved*” (**Mark 16:16**).