

Devotional Thoughts

Genesis 44:16

Then Judah said, "What shall we say to my lord? What shall we speak? Or how shall we clear ourselves? God has found out the iniquity of your servants; here we are my lord's slaves, both we and he also with whom the cup was found."

Guilt is a powerful emotion and very effective motivator. We can all think of times when we have been "guilted" into doing something that we did not want to do. But perhaps the greatest impact guilt has on us is not what it gets us to do but what it keeps us from doing. I can only imagine how the guilt must have haunted Joseph's brothers all those years. I imagine that every time something went wrong they must have at least considered it to be the hand of God coming against them for their sin. Sadly these guys are not alone. Many Christians live under the heavy weight of their past failures. Whenever they begin to make any forward progress in The Lord, they are held back by the thoughts of a past decision, failure or deed.

While there is no question that our actions can have great impact on others and grave consequences in our lives it is also true the Cross of Christ is big enough to remove not only our sin but also its guilt. Instead of focusing on how we have failed a better approach is to focus upon how Christ has brought freedom through the cross.

If you have a heavy anchor of guilt weighing you down it is high time you took it to the cross and let Jesus wash it away. You can never go back and undo your failure but you can allow Him to wash it in His precious blood so that you can move forward to accomplish great things for God. Keep in mind that one brother who sold Joseph off later risked his life for Benjamin.

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