

## ADAPT OR DIE, REPENT OR PERISH

Used Of God

- I. **Proverbs 28:13-14-When you miss it whether you cover or confess will have a big impact on your future**
  - A. Not repenting of sin (confessing and forsaking) will keep you from advancing, making progress, breaking out (Prosper-Advance, Make Progress, Succeed, Break Out, To experience prosperity)
    1. **If you want to prosper, to advance, to make progress, succeed, break out, and experience prosperity, then when you are corrected/directed, when you miss it, you must confess it and you must change**
      - a. **You can make all the right confessions, but if you don't confess it and change when you're corrected/directed you won't prosper; you can sow seed, tithe, come to church, read your bible, but if you miss it and don't repent you won't prosper**
      2. This hardening and covering and refusing to change keeps people from advancing
  - B. Some are missing out on promotion and advancement because God has showed them something and instead of changing, they harden themselves, cover it and don't repent
    1. God promotes on a step by step basis, not all at once-Romans 4:12
      - a. These little corrections God's gives to you, how you handle them, what you do when they come plays a big part in what he is able to do in your life
      - b. If God says to you come to church on Wednesday night and you don't, to you it is sin and if you don't repent/change then you won't advance or be promoted to the next step
      - c. You don't get big steps first you get little steps and if you don't handle the little steps properly you never advance to the bigger ones
    2. **God's plan for your life is not set in stone; how you handle the correction and direction he gives you determines how much of his plan that you experience**
      - a. It was God's plan that Moses take them into the promise land, but that didn't happen
      - b. **If you want to experience the fullness of his plan, then you must walk in the light you have and repent and change when he corrects you**
      - c. Jeremiah 29:11-He does have a plan to prosper you, but without this you don't get to that plan
    3. Your life that is hid in Jesus is a continual series of directions and corrections
      - a. God will constantly shine the light on you bit by bit and when you see imperfection if you want to advance and prosper then you must change
    4. **We're not just talking about ugly sin (i.e. fornication, adultery, unforgiveness, hatred), we're talking about you knew in your heart to do something and you didn't do it; And if you cover that and hide it and don't confess it and turn from it and change, then you won't advance**

**II. This is so big in being used of God; you got to be pliable, you got to be meek, you to be humble, quick to repent, quick to change**

- A. Numbers 12:3-Moses was the meekest (Meek-Yielding, Submissive, Humble) man in his generation and he was also the most used man of God in his generation;
1. **There is a connection in your level of humility and the degree that you are used of God**
    - a. **God's not just picking people on a whim; he's looking for humility and honor**
    - b. **People who walk in higher levels of humility and value His things the most are the ones who will be used the most**
  2. The more meek/humble you are the more grace you'll have and the more grace you have the greater you'll be used of God; The more grace you have the more greatly you can be used-James 4:6-7
    - a. Grace is for assignments---More and greater assignments and grace come to the humble
  3. You need grace to be used and the proud don't get grace so the proud don't get used; The proud don't get the assignments and they don't get the grace
    - a. **One of the strongest ways pride manifests itself is this hardening of the neck, this covering of the sin, this refusal to repent and to change-Proverbs 28:13, Proverbs 29:1**
      - 1) **This covering of sin and hardening of the heart will keep you from being used by God**
    - b. **When you see this in people DON'T USE THEM; We're not looking for perfection, but we are looking for humility**
  4. What God does with the meek/humble
    - a. James 4:10, 1 Peter 5:6, Matthew 23:12, Psalm 147:6-God lifts up and exalts the humble
    - b. Psalm 25:9-God guides the meek and teaches them his way
    - c. Psalm 37:11-The meek will delight themselves in an abundance of prosperity
    - d. Psalm 149:4-God beautifies the meek with salvation
  5. **When you are meek and humble you are pliable, you are yielding, your adaptable, you are quick to repent, quick to change, quick to obey**
    - a. A person is inflexible, uncooperative, inadapttable, slow to repent and slow to change when corrected by the Lord will not be used of God in a great way
- B. This pride is a big issue to God and when it comes to choosing who he uses pride will disqualify you
1. When it comes to God choosing who He uses some stuff is a bigger red flag to God than others and pride is a really big red flag
    - a. *James 4:6-God resists the proud*
    - b. *Proverbs 6:16-17-These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look*
    - c. *Proverbs 15:25-The LORD will destroy the house of the proud*

- d. *Proverbs 16:5-Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the LORD*
- e. *Proverbs 8:13-Pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.*
- 2. EX: Well you know Bob is just a little proud and stubborn sometimes, but he has a good heart so I'll be gracious to Him anyway and use Him anyway; THIS IS NOT GOD'S ATTITUDE; He gets no grace, he gets resisted, he does not get used
- C. I'm convinced that when God is looking for people to use that the quality he looks for most is the humble, teachable, repentant heart; someone who is pliable, adaptable, quick to obey
  - 1. John 13:8-Peter was used mightily of God and this was one of the main reasons why
  - 2. Matthew 21:28-32-It was doing the wrong thing and not changing that God couldn't work with
    - a. He said the wrong thing, but afterward he repented
  - 3. When God ask you to do something will you do it? When he corrects you will you change?
    - a. God is gracious and he is merciful and he will give you time to repent; That being said I don't want to be one who He needs to give a lot of time to; I want to be quick to repent; Be quick to repent; Stop fussing with right; don't argue with right; Wrong is wrong

### **III. You got people losing their place, their grace, their assignments and anointing because of a refusal to repent; they didn't lose those things because of ugly sin, they lost them because they wouldn't repent**

- A. 1 Samuel 15-His pride, His refusal to repent, His covering of sin affected his grace, his anointing, his assignment and his usefulness to God
  - 1. 3-Course correction-Because usually when you defeat an enemy you spare the king and keep the spoils
    - a. When you marched back in with the opposing king captured and all the spoil of the enemy taken there would be a great celebration and the victorious king and his army would be acknowledged, seen, celebrated by the people (This time if they win they are going to come back with nothing)
    - b. Wanting to be seen and noticed is a manifestation of pride and Saul has a pride problem and that is directly connected to his refusal to repent when he gets corrected
  - 2. 8-9-He regarded this course correction, this direction as a light thing
    - a. **The reason so many are so slow to repent and change is because they don't honor or value what God says to them; to them what He said means little or nothing; it's no big deal**
    - b. **We've perfected talking about his mercy grace so that we don't have to talk about our not doing what he says**
    - c. **All this stuff they are sparing and keeping is more valuable and important to him than this word God spoke to him; he values this spoil, more than he values the word from the Lord**
  - 3. 12-HE set up a trophy for HIS victory (He wants to be seen and noticed and celebrated)
    - a. Why is Saul up early in the morning building this trophy? Because this is most important to him

4. 13-He's lying and covering, he's not confessing-Pride pretends; He's pretending like he did a good thing
  - a. Pride doesn't want to deal with reality and the reality is he didn't do what God said
  - b. You can see pride here too because he doesn't need to broadcast that he did what God said even if he had done exactly what God said
5. 14-This was his first opportunity to repent and he covered instead of confessed
6. 15-He's blaming, he's covering, he's not confessing
  - a. When it came to the sparing it was "They" but when it came to the destroying that was "We"
  - b. He says "They spared them" because in his heart he knows it was wrong
  - c. Were they planning on sacrificing them the Lord had Samuel not said anything about it? No
  - d. The rest we have destroyed; God didn't say the rest, he said all – You can tell what God said to him, meant nothing to him
7. 16-He must be getting worked up because Samuel had to tell him to calm down
  - a. There's some defiance in this "Say on" response
8. 17-Apparently he's not small in his own sight anymore
9. 19-God is giving him time and another opportunity to repent – This is the mercy of God
  - a. It's time to repent, to own it, to humble yourself and to be a man and not try to justify it and cover it
  - b. He did evil in the sight of the Lord --- He didn't walk in the light that he had (and now it's time to repent, but he won't)
10. 20-21-He's defiant and blaming and defensive and trying to justify his wrong behavior
  - a. This is covering and hiding and justifying and blaming; this is pride not humility
11. 22-The Lord wants you to do what he says; not disobey him and then try to cover it with "religious" works
12. 23-The rebellion was bad enough, but he added stubbornness to it (pushing, pressing, arrogance, presumption, to be insolent)
  - a. 23-Rebellion insinuates you knew what was right and did wrong anyway
    - 1) This whole time he knows what was right and that he did wrong
    - 2) 20-21-He knows something wasn't done right because he blames the people for the wrong and says some stuff, SHOULD HAVE BEEN destroyed
  - b. 23-Stubbornness-Push, Insolent, Arrogance, Presumption
    - 1) **Never push back on the correction of the Lord**
    - 2) Some when they get corrected they get brash and arrogant and push back and Saul did this
    - 3) It wasn't just the rebellion that got him in trouble, it was the stubbornness added to it
  - c. It's not the disobedience that is the big thing here; it's that he won't repent

- 1) This was not the plan of God for his life; The problem was not just that he took the spoil and spared the king, the problem was he would not repent; he's covering and can't prosper
  13. 23-He despised the Word from the Lord; not just the first word of direction, but the second word of correction and he lost his place
    - a. He lost his place, his grace, his assignment; He's not going to be used of God in that way anymore
  14. 24-He didn't want to repent, until it cost him something (until he got caught)
    - a. It wasn't important enough to him, until HE was going to lose something
      - 1) He's ready to repent after he knows he's going to lose his kingdom, but he wasn't ready before
      - 2) He was sorry he lost his kingdom, but he never truly repented
      - 3) He wasn't ready to change his heart, he just didn't want to lose his Kingdom
    - b. 30-He still wants to be acknowledge and recognized in front of the people
  15. 2 Samuel 12, 1 Samuel 15-The issue here is that David didn't cover it and hide it, while Saul tried to and that was why David continue to be used of the Lord and Saul lost is anointing
    - a. 9-David didn't walk in the light he had and now it's time to repent
    - b. 13-David didn't cover it, he acknowledge it and that's why he continued to be used of God
- B. Numbers 20:1-20-A failure to repent will eventually lead to a removal of your place and can keep you from fulfilling the plan of God for your life
1. There's dishonor, there's pride, there's lack of faith
    - a. Sanctify-To treat has hallowed or sacred
    - b. Their was an utter disregard for the words that God has spoke to them; the instructions he gave them meant nothing to them – Dishonor
    - c. Must WE fetch you water out of this rock – Pride
  2. Deuteronomy 3:24-26-There was an unwillingness to repent
    - a. He's blaming the people from God being wroth (passing over) with Him
    - b. The people didn't hit the rock, the people didn't rebel against the Lord
  3. Luke 12:48-Much was required of him, because much was given to him
- C. Acts 5:1-In their pride they covered and didn't confess and their pride caused them to perish
1. A powerful move of God is happening where people are liquidating their things and giving it to the Kingdom and people who are doing it are being recognized and talked about and in their pride Ananias and Sapphira want to be seen
  2. There was time for them to repent & when Peter starts talking to them like this it's time to do it-3,8,9
    - a. 3-Peter asked Ananias a question, but he didn't answer
    - b. The both stood there tight lipped, stiff-necked, hard hearted

3. They didn't perish because they lied, they perished because they wouldn't repent and it was not the will of God for their lives-1 Peter 3:9 --- **Did they have to perish?**

a. They wanted to be seen for doing something good and how embarrassing it would be for them to be seen for doing something bad

D. Genesis 3:10-Adam covered and didn't confess, Eve covered and didn't confess