

HOW CAN SIN FIND YOU OUT? (Part 1)

Request: Could you do a study on (Num.32:23) where it talks about “your sin finding you out.”

(Num.32:23b) “And be sure (yada / kal impf.2pl) [always be knowledgeable or wise] that your sin (chattath) will find you out (matsa / kal impf / 2plm).”

Moses made this statement to the tribes of Reuben, Gad and ½ tribe of Manasseh regarding their Transjordan settlement in Numbers, Ch.32.

There are three themes in the book of Numbers that are important to the background of our study.

- There were two censuses taken of the Israelite Tribes (chs.1-3 and 26).
- The Exodus generation failure to walk by faith in the Directive Will of God (32:6-15) [Idolatry] (1 Cor.10:5-11; 2 Pet.2:15-16 and Jude 11).
- The seriousness of personal sin in the believer’s life and the danger of collective sin in the Priest-Nation of Israel. (Num.32:20-24).

Jesus talked about the prophetic gospel preached to them to Nicodemus in (John 3:1-3, 9-16).

We will examine Num.32 by the following four homiletic points.

- (Num.32:1-5) Easy road rather than the promised road
- (Num.32:6-15) Exodus generation failure
- (Num.32:16-27) **Example of “How a sin can find you out.”**
- (Num.32:28-42) Edit of the covenant agreement

<p>This lesson will study four points to answer the question, “How can sin find you out?”</p>
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1. Let’s begin with the question: “what is sin?”

Sin is identified by the Word of God.

(Rom.3:20) “Because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.”

“The function of the Law, Paul says, is to give knowledge of or about sin, **not** to save from sin. (Acts 13:39; 1 Tim.1:9-10).” (Ryrie of Rom.3:20; Gal.3:12/ NASB)

(Rom.4:15) “For the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation.”

(Rom.5:13) “For until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.”

(Rom.7:7-8) “What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about **coveting** if the Law had not said, ‘You shall not covet.’” (Ex.20:17) [10th commandment]

2. **Conscience can convict the spiritually advancing Church Age Believer (CAB) of sin because of Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) residing in the heart (The right lobe of mentality).**

(Ps.119:11) “Your Word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.” (Matt.6:19-21)

David to Saul

(1 Sam.24:15-16) “‘The Lord therefore be judge and decide between you and me; and may He see and plead my cause and deliver me from your hand.’ Now it came about when David had finished speaking these words to Saul, which Saul said, ‘Is this is your voice, my son David?’ Then Saul lifted up his voice and wept.” (Rom.2:15; Heb.10:22)

Peter to Jesus to Peter

(Matt.26:33-35) “But Peter said to Him, ‘Even though all may fall away because of You, I will never fall away.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Truly I say to you that **this very night**, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times. Peter said to Him, ‘Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You.’ All the disciples said the same thing too.” (Matt.26:31-32; Zech.13:7)

Peter to himself

(Matt.26:74-75) “Then he began to curse and swear, ‘I do not know the man!’ And immediately a rooster crowed. And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, ‘Before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.’ And he went out and wept bitterly.” (Ps.55:10-11; 59:21)

3. **The indwelling Holy Spirit will also convict of sin (John 16:8-11).**

(John 16:8) “And He, when He comes will convict **the world** concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.”

This convicting work of the Holy Spirit to world is from inside the Ambassador of Christ regarding the Gospel of grace salvation (John 14:16; 1 Cor.6:19-20; 2 Cor.5:18-21).

The convicting work of the Indwelling Holy Spirit also produces conviction of personal sin, like Peter’s. Failure to confess personal sin results in grieving and quenching the Indwelling Holy Spirit (Eph.4:26-32; 1 Thess.5:19-20) [do not section] (Ps.51:4; Luke 15:18, 21; 1 John 1:9).

4. **We close with a final comment from Moses’ statement, “And be sure that your sin will find you out.”**

Moses used it as a key point in his meditation of a biblical Covenant agreement between the 9 ½ tribes and 2 ½ tribes of Israel (Num.32:20-24).

This biblical Covenant was based on the Abraham Covenant (Gen.12:7; 13:15; Ex.3:16-17; Num.32:11-12).

Violation of this biblical Covenant agreement **would be the sin that would find them out** (Num.32:20-24).

(Num.32:23) “But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against the Lord, and be sure your sin will find you out.”