

How Could This Happen?

by K.P. Yohannan

The sermon addresses the struggle with guilt and failure, highlighting the transformative power of repentance and God's mercy.

Scripture: Psalm 51:10, 1 John 1:9

Topics: "God's Mercy", "Repentance"

Description

K.P. Yohannan addresses the common human experience of guilt and self-rationalization after wrongdoing, emphasizing that even the most hardened individuals often seek to justify their actions. He illustrates this with the example of 'Two Gun' Crowley, who, despite his crimes, attempted to portray himself as a victim. Yohannan reminds us that while we may struggle with feelings of guilt and shame, true repentance opens the door to God's mercy and forgiveness. He challenges us to confront the shadows of our past and embrace the grace that God offers to all who turn to Him.

Transcript

We all have had those feelings. We think, "How could I have done that? I know better than this. I should have learned by now." Deep inside we have the defense that we are better than the wrong we committed.

Even the worst criminal has all kinds of reasons and explanations for the mess in which he finds himself. For example, "Two Gun" Crowley, responsible for murdering many people in the 1930s, was cornered within a building awaiting an inevitable arrest. He wrote a note while the police were firing at him. The note read, "Under my coat is a weary heart, but a kind one." Then as he faced capital punishment, he questioned his sentence, saying: "This is what I get for defending myself."

In spite of rationalizing and trying to minimize our failure, guilt gnaws at our heart. We sink as we consider what we have done. Yet as followers of God, we know that upon repentance we can experience firsthand His marvelous mercy. Why then do we feel this shadow over us?

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