

The Silent Sin

by Shane Idleman

The silent sin refers to the hidden, unconfessed sins in our hearts that can lead to spiritual death and destruction, and can only be overcome through forgiveness, release, and a willingness to seek God.

Duration: 47:20

Scripture: Psalm 51:10, Matthew 5:21-24, Matthew 15:18-19, Mark 7:20-23, James 4:8

Topics: "Heart Repentance", "Spiritual Growth"

Description

This sermon delves into the importance of addressing the silent sins of the heart, such as unresolved anger, pride, and hypocrisy. It emphasizes the need for repentance and cleansing of the heart to experience true worship and spiritual growth. The speaker highlights the significance of going beyond external actions to address the condition of the heart, as well as the consequences of harboring toxic emotions. The message underscores the power of forgiveness, humility, and seeking God through prayer and worship to break down facades and experience genuine transformation.

Transcript

Well, you can be seated a couple quick announcements before I forget We have a lot of families gone this week, and I'm hoping that they'll know this but next Monday There are no more Monday studies. We we ended last Monday so if you're gonna show up Monday, you'll probably see the VBS going on and that's That's you know if you want to bring your kids. That'd be great, but there will not be a Monday night service Probably for a few weeks or at least a few months even till we decide what we're going to do And we're still needing help with children's ministry of course so if you have the desire to help in children's ministry.

Let us know and With that said if you haven't been here before we welcome you and we are in the book of Matthew We're going systematically through Matthew Verse by verse and trying to see what Jesus's words what the relevance is for us today So you can go ahead and turn to Matthew chapter 5 Verse 21 Matthew chapter 5 verse 21 if you were not here last week last week's message is already online It was that it was titled law the law of God clearing up the confusion and we talked about the law of God How does that apply to us today? Does it still apply or we now under grace? What what's what's what's what's going on with the law of God in the Old Testament? How is that applicable today? So it's on our website last week's message if you want to grab that Also, we ask that all cell phones be muted or turned off. I just checked mine, and I'm good So go ahead and check that if you get chance, and you'll see the title the

message tonight is the silent sin And I'm going to take from that Matthew chapter 5 verse 21 Let's just pick up there You have heard that it was said to those of old you shall not murder and Whoever murders will be in danger of judgment, but I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment and Whoever says you fool shall be in danger of hellfire Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar and there you remember that your brother has something against you Leave your gift there before the altar and go your way First be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift Agree with your adversary quickly while you're on the way with him lest your adversary Deliver you up to the judge and the judge hand you over to the officer and you be thrown into prison I Surely I say to you you will by no means get out of there until you have paid Every last penny and I'm gonna stop there because next week He says you've heard That you shall not commit adultery But I say to you and that's a lot to pack as it is I want to just stop and just talk about this issue of of what Jesus is talking about if you If you've heard that it was said to you of old you shall not murder Whoever murders will be in danger of judgment but I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of Judgment, and I'm talking to you obviously tonight Fred you can go back to the initial screen I didn't mean to get to the the word that quickly. I apologize The silent sin see the problem is with many of us we can hold sin in silently Because people can't see what's going on in the heart.

It's almost like we can stage our lives right, we can build this nice little thing and we can stage our lives, but Jesus is going after the silent sins of the heart and Really? That's what God is after. He's after the heart issue of things So when we talk about like we did last week the Old Testament and the law of God and all these things All of it goes back to the heart of the person because the person you can do all these things I do this I do this I do this but the heart if the heart is not right There's an issue there. So one of the points of preaching is to go after the heart that's the whole role of the pulpit many times is to go after the heart and do what we call heart surgery and That's what Jesus is really talking about.

He's he's digging into the heart and he says for out of the heart comes evil thoughts murder adultery sexual morality Theft false testimony and slander it all comes from the heart And interesting I came across a story this week and It's talking about this whole idea of repentance and if there's no change of heart There can be no pardon of sin and that's how somebody if they want their sins Forgiven their repentance has to take place. What is that basically doing? We've talked about that numerous times here. The heart is breaking Repenting crying out to God Lord.

I have a wicked heart. I'm a sinful person. Would you come and save me? They're asking for a pardon.

It's it's something happening in the heart But some years ago a murderer was sentenced to death The murderer's brother to whom the state was deeply indebted for former services Besought the governor of the state for his brother's pardon The pardon was granted and the man visited his brother with the pardon but in his pocket What would you do? He said if you were to receive a pardon Well, the first thing I would do he answered is to track down the judge who sentenced me and murder him The next thing I would do is track down the chief witness and murder him The brother arose and left the prison with the pardon still in his pocket Why what happened? There's no change of heart All that was was brewing beneath the surface And I would like to submit to you tonight that most of the the the issues we're facing are not Really known to most people are they not? They're brewing beneath the surface through the silent sins and that's what God goes after That's what Jesus is going after what Jesus is saying. It is here. He's not superseding the law He's not saying well, you've heard it said and that's not true What he's saying is you've heard it said Yeah, don't commit murder, but if you even hold all that anger in your heart, you're guilty Because what these guys were were loving to do is saying see we've never murdered anybody Yeah, I feel it in my heart.

I'd love that for that person to die I have so much content and jealousy and envy but see I've never broken the law and Really took it to its full course and killed somebody Jesus saying that's nice But I say to you if you even hold that murdering temperament that murdering at you in your heart you're guilty And people say see I never committed adultery. I've never committed adultery How many of us could say that in the room quite a bit of us some can't some can't I've never committed adultery And then I tell man, well, let me see your your computer history for the last few months Well Can I go home first and delete the history What's going are you in dressing people every week in your mind and we think well, we're so spiritual I've never committed adultery. Jesus saying well you bet you have Because it's in here and you're acting it out in here and in your heart for out of the abundance of the heart Your mouth is gonna speak your your your actions are gonna be there because of what's in the heart So this is this is really important because a lot of people get so caught up on I don't do this and I don't do this and I don't do this and I don't do this like the Pharisees They were they walked around they look at what we do We we obey all these laws and we we don't do this and we don't do this and Jesus just called him out And he said listen Look at your heart and that's a silent sin.

Many people don't know I don't know what's going on in your heart and your heart and your heart Now eventually your sin will find you out it will manifest itself But there's a period of time there where that sin is silent and that's what Jesus is going after And this really is not unlike a lot of people today. They were justifying their hard hearts with the Word of God That's what these religious leaders did. They justified their hard hearts with the Word of God Yeah, I know, you know, I'm a sinful man, but I'm obeying the Word of God and we do that today We throw scripture in there Yeah, but yeah, but as I've talked about before anytime you have to say yeah, but there's trouble Yeah, but this but this but that and we use the Word of God kind of to mask what's going on in our own lives And really there's two sins here that I want to deal with tonight The first one obviously with these guys is pride and anger and as we know the pride of your heart had has deceived you So these people are leaving Living in deception and then Jesus also tackles this issue of anger Anger work is not the righteousness of God and it's ironic how a lot of times prideful people are very angry people Have you ever noticed that? That's interesting think about it the most angry people I know Including seasons of my life are when pride was at the forefront Pride and anger go together You don't see a humble person very much serving God and just loving life very angry What happened? It's that prideful heart and anger and that's what I'm gonna talk about in just a mix I think it's gonna help a lot of people and that's the context here.

They were very proud They kept the law and their interesting thing is these guys weren't even saved I'm sure Nicodemus and other people Possibly obviously their Pharisees and Sadducees religious leaders who came to know the Lord But for the majority of these men, these people were not even saved They were on the broad road to destruction yet. They were Obeying God's Word Isn't that a little bit? dissettling It's like whoa, you've got to be careful here, right? Because it's always the condition of the heart but on one hand it is a little alarming on the other hand We don't have to worry because we know if our heart is in right relationship with God that we're secure We're saved but these men were going around they had a form of religion They had a form of godliness But they denied the one true living God hell by their heart the condition of their heart and you'll see that a lot of times People knocking on doors trying to push their religion Right, they do do do do they do a lot of good things and that's what I often hear Well, they're good people. I'm a good person.

Well, when is good good ever enough? I should do a sermon on that sometime It's good good enough or when is good good enough? Because we're doing all these things and that's what that's what these people

were guilty of Pride always says look at me. Look at what I did That's what these guys are saying. We do that to in the Christian community.

Look at what I did Look at look at whether it's giving or serving or this look at what we do. Look at we don't even do this We don't even do that. Look at us.

Look at how great we are. We follow all these rules All the time we hear that look out. I've had people come up to me and and say man I'm we're so, you know, holy in our house.

We don't go to the movies We don't even own a TV and the wife says yeah, but he yells at me and chews out the kids and throws things around the house You see you see the irony with this wow, that's good for you Why don't you put turn on something that's gonna build up your marriage and your relationship with God? Why don't you you have to have your heart break? That's what God looks at. God says I look at a broken and contrite heart not by doing and doing and doing now granted I want to be careful because as a student of God's Word and Loving God's Word and seeing the necessity of obedience and holiness. We don't want over over look that either Because changing us sanctification is God's job but Obedience is ours So there are scriptures that we have to we want to obey out of because grace has set me free It's from that grace compels me that the law of God lays out certain things ways of conduct that I should live So we don't want to Dismiss that either but the moment we start to say look at what I do When the heart is not right, that's when we're in trouble and that's what these guys were doing Legalists and Pharisees are so proud of their conduct, but their heart is a cesspool of pride and sin You want to prove text for that? Jesus said in Matthew 23 woe to you teachers of the law and you Pharisees you hypocrites Basically, they were they were a hypocrite we've talked about before they're putting on a mask They're this and then they take oh now I'm this they're putting on a mask or hypocrites are saying one thing But they're doing another You are like whitewashed tombs which look beautiful on the outside, but inside you are full of bones of the dead and everything that is unclean and Basically, what did these guys do? They staged their life Did they not nice little chipmunk? He's not too threatening This stuff nice a little pig here.

You know, they just staged their life But Jesus looks behind the facade what's behind all of that and pulls that back and it's full of dead bones and in all uncleanness and That is one of the things Jesus would go out more than anything else is hypocrisy I'm not talking about a struggle People struggle and they need to be built up and they need encourage But I'm talking about a hypocrite who says one thing yet does another Comes in here worthy as a lamp. It wasn't wasn't worship. So great and then they get home and click click click click Oh, but what where's the hypocrite brother Shane? It's so great to see you and then they go in there they go home and there's something there's something at home that they're not here The best thing is just to be all transparent and say we're sinners saved by grace.

Would you help me? Would you pray for me? I'm struggling with these issues. I'm not a hypocrite I don't want to be hypocrite but I want to serve God even more and be honest and be transparent about these things and Jesus is saying whoever says to his brother Raka shall be in danger of the council But whoever says you fool shall be in danger of hellfire Now that would be a whole sermon we could unpack Raka and Jesus saying in danger of the council They had a council back then that would wave matters and then he's taking a step further you fool You shall be in danger of hellfire and basically my sir. What in the world is this guy's problem? What's the big deal with Raka? Are you fool? Well, I can't say what it would mean in our vernacular today because it would be you know Probably a little inappropriate from the pulpit But these are some pretty hard statements in the Jewish community when you would say these things Raka basically was a worthless fellow.

We have contempt for them We pull them down every chance we get Raka you worthless fellow and they kept attacking these people and they attacking these people and that happens to us Is there people at work former churches all you do every time you talk about them you pull them down Or is it just me? I'm guilty of that in the past. Oh Yeah, I bring up that guy. You just pull them down you Say look and do some heart surgery get this junk out of your heart Get this stuff out of your heart Are there people who you keep murdering with your words? That's a heart check right now.

Are there people at work former churches family members? Ex-spouses that you keep murdering with your words you pull them down every chance you get not last week not last month But even last year or the last 10 years So what happens is we come in and we worship Stage our lives have a facade yet God is going behind that saying look at this evil wicked uncleanness in your heart Repent of it get rid of it because all it does is pull you down. It kills you spiritually there's no filling of the Spirit of God when you're holding all that uncleanness in because we were meant to forgive and release not hold and Resent and a lot of times, you know, they'll tell you in the in the fitness industry as well With my background of this is when you hold on to all these toxic emotions They are toxic not only spiritually, but they're toxic emotionally and physically Look at all the research that shows very angry men will suffer heart attacks at a young age that anger is Toxic it releases all this adrenaline all this this toxin you keep putting in your body and your body can't take a lot of that That's what God says release forgive and forget let it go Let it be this is so powerful. Jesus says if you're a church and you're coming to worship God and you feel in your heart Oh, I've got something against my brother or my brother's got something against me He said put down your guitar stop playing the piano and go work it out That's how important it is.

Why because it kills us and eats us up I've seen people be cured and healed by forgiving and releasing Instead of holding in all that bitterness and unforgiveness and especially ex-spouses They use their children as pawns to tear each other down for the rest of their lives That's wrong. And that's prideful and God's calling us to task on that The bottom line is are you a negative fault-finding person? That's if I could boil all this down to it would be this. Are you a negative? Fault-finding person And if I'm pointing at you, there's always four fingers right pointing back at me If you're not sure just ask your spouse ask your friends What would they say? Because once you can begin to do this kind of heart surgery, it's freeing So many people want to be desperate for more of God.

They want to be filled the Spirit of God They want direction for their life. They want peace They want to know God more intimately But they're not willing to give up all of these toxic emotions and toxic things that they're holding on to no I like my Uncleanness, I like my bitterness and resentment that way I can hold them captive for the rest of their life Actually, you're not holding them captive They're holding you captive the walls you've built to protect you are now imprisoning you they've moved on They're gone. It's you holding all this in that's why Jesus says I don't care whose fault It is bring forgiveness that'll lead to restoration You could see the coldest couple in the room when they both break and repent and forgive and come back God can redeem and restore that marriage But what do we see nine times out of ten back up is getting there's no way.

I'm not there's no way And I can't find one scripture that tells me to wait for the other person It always puts it back on our shoulders, doesn't it? You forgive you let it go you repent you do what you can you respect you know, I don't want to see the powers and the obedience of God's Word and Actually, I'm gonna say something here might upset a few people, but that's okay The person who is more spiritually mature will be the person who does the right thing regardless of whose fault it is When we hold it in we become like little children Paul would say carnal immature. You're still in the milk of the word. I can't even give you

meat There's no maturity there.

So whether you're wrong or not if you take the initial step, I'm sorry I apologize you release all this unforgiveness You're you become the more spiritually mature person and God works in your life with that Now the big challenge right now is as I'm saying this in our minds a lot of people going Yeah, I know, but you don't know what they did. You don't know the hell I've been you don't know how much they hurt me financially. You don't know.

I I just can't I know God's Word says it but I can't just let it go and You'll be stuck for the rest of your life There's no wiggle room here. There's no little gray area God says release these things that are there like dead men's bones in your body Pride is the only disease I love this quote pride is the only disease known to man that makes everybody sick except the person who has it Wow Doesn't in that true and as I said before I'm not pointing pink fingers up here. I'm quoting I'll quote CJ Mahaney again I'm a prideful man Working on humility by the grace of God And as soon as you come to that realization that we are prideful people there then healing can take place But as soon as we think well, I've got it master I've got together I'm not real I'm a humble if you say you're a humble person.

You're not Others will point it out. You never want to point that out in yourself because Saying I'm a humble person now. I'm a prideful person.

I'm prideful over my humility And that doesn't work Pride is the only disease known to man that makes everybody sick except the person who has it That's why I honestly don't like to be around a lot of prideful people They make me sick They just talk about themselves all the time. It's all about them. It's all about this part Look what I did.

Look what I did. Look what I did. Look it's just it's like Oh God get away from me It just makes me sick.

Why are you sick of this because it's self-glorification pride Satan was prideful. That's what caused him to fall from heaven many theologians will agree. I Will be like the Most High God.

I will be like God. I will exalt myself and what happened It's not a good story and that same that same sinful nature resides in us Many people have others fooled, but we don't have God fooled We always have to remember that see we can make this stage and doesn't this look nice and kids and little things and stuff We've got everybody fooled, but God can see behind this stage It's what once we realize that I think it's healthy because we can say you know what I might have this person fooled this or My spouse but God knows it's it's God we have to do business with That's what everything is about and on that note. I want to give some some help here on this issue of anger We've talked about being toxic spiritually physically and emotionally Anger also destroys relationships, which is I'm not repeating anything.

It's new pride fuels anger So we've already said all that so now what happens when let's get to the cure For this Jesus said therefore if you bring your gift to the altar in other words people are coming to worship They're coming to worship God if you bring your gift to the altar and there Remember that your brother has something against you leave your gift there before the altar and go your way First be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift Agree with him quickly while you're on the way with him Lest your adversary deliver you to the judge and the judge hand you over to the officer and you're thrown into prison Jesus says I say to you you will by no means get out of there until everything has been paid There's consequences to that. So the key is this anger is often a secondary emotion Does anybody struggle with anger you want some help tonight? Remember this anger is a secondary emotion Often it's not a primary.

It's fueled from something else Perfect example.

I came in here in a great mood. I came to church in a really good mood until I saw This I'm not joking What is this? I'm gonna be a little joke up here. This stuff hits the internet and Wow Dennis is like can we get a big sheet and hang it down and I'm thinking I would love to how are we gonna cover all This up.

So but I'm just being honest looking forward to church. Now. I'm a little PO'd like they can't wait till Sunday afternoon Well, what is this all about? Mean this kind of this really doesn't go with my image right The Godzilla preacher telling people true God's truth.

Oh, there's a nice little pig and cute little snake And so that was I mean, it was like wow, this is there's no way around this one So, what do you have to learn Frank go with the flow Grab my notes real quick and start throwing in here the stuff about staging our lives stage That's all just an hour ago once I saw this But point was what do I do with that anger? It was irritating. I could tell oh my lord. Nobody even told me I mean, I don't like when you're blindsided.

You've got you know, this kind of stuff behind you and But we have a saying at our house It doesn't always work and you don't want to say it at the wrong time, but go with the flow Morgan's upset. I usually don't say go with the flow because that doesn't help things but that's a biblical principle I know it seems maybe a little like Childish or that? Yeah, Shane. That's nothing new Of course But if you can learn to go with the flow meaning be content in all things be joyful Don't be grumbling complaining for 40 years the children of Israel Wandered and wandered and wandered why because they grumbled and complained grumbled and complained God finally said, you know what? You're not gonna enter the promised land your kids are I'm done with you So that's what going with the flow is flat tire this spout this this this we just found out now We've got a maybe a wedding coming up in a few months.

We have to go to my in Arizona It's like all it's like wow all the steps just go with the flow be content because I feel see the anchor I didn't feel It's a secondary emotion something caused that What's usually cause it I'm not getting my way Well, let's be honest tonight. I'm I came to be honest When I get mad, it's usually because I'm not getting my way Things aren't going like I thought this isn't working. This plan is not working or this financial I was counting on this money now.

It's dead in the water. What happened? I'm inked So see you have to remember that it's not a primary emotion all the time. It's a secondary emotion an Anger can be good that anger is what forced William William Wilberforce rent the movie to end finally get get petitioning Parliament to change and stop the the slave trade 30 years But that righteous anger Martin Luther said when I am angry I can preach well and I can pray even better anger over abortion Pornography the sex trade all these things.

That's a good thing. If it's directed in the right direction a secondary emotion But what do we do with the other anger that comes up and you want to pop off at your spouse? Or that just happened in my house Nobody wants to be honest tonight We just talked about this last week. I'm like, I don't know.

I should know I should stop being so transparent What happens we're having a meeting with another pastor and it's funny. He said to me He goes see if I can remember this he goes somebody came up to me in my congregation said pastor Do you ever do anything wrong or you ever we never you never say anything wrong about yourself? Do you ever blow it? Are you transparent and he took that? No, that's good advice Maybe I should do that and I said my problem Friday the opposite. I probably am too transparent But we you know in trying to give it give our own Illustrations on this but going with the flow

ruining plans Jealousy, you know somebody's getting something that I want That's mine and they got it envy the family members get this big inheritance.

I mean we hear it all the time You know somebody gets I just might you know something Well, what I don't know what you fill in the blank and I just got a million dollars What am I gonna do with it? I'm like, wow That's a you know, that's a good problem to have next athlete signs at 80 million dollar deal over 10 years like all he does is hit a ball and entertains people and It's what's a sec So that's why when I when I and I don't want to minimize going with the flow because it's very healthy It's helped me a lot. In other words you go through life. Okay, Lord.

How are you going to move today? What it's going to happen flat tire sick this you go with the flow. You're not grumbling. You're complaining.

You're thankful It's a state of thankfulness As soon as you get out of that anger can rear its ugly head and when things aren't starting to work perfectly Let me be honest with you every day. Something is gonna come up. That is not working.

Well So the quicker we can say Lord just thank you Or I don't want to grumble. I don't complain. I don't want this right now, but Lord help me find something in this and It he will see us through but I want to talk about this briefly on resolving this kind of stuff conflict resolution Jesus said notice this this is interesting.

He said act quickly Leave your gift go and go your way So one of the one of the the keys behind conflict resolution dealing with anger Forgiveness all these things especially with spouses or others that have wronged us is to go quickly if you remember it stop coming to church every single weekend and Deal with it when you go home when you go home tonight. There's something deal with it There's no way around this if people have offended you and your family at other churches Maybe at this church if I've offended you after the service come up and say Listen, we need to resolve this. I don't think there is at this night tonight, but that's okay I don't have anything against anybody in this room either, but if there is that's all point of this go quickly But what do we do? Oh, geez? I Want to get into that debate again? I don't want to talk to them.

Well, it's been a while now. I think they'll forget Isn't it over now? We've talked about you know, I mean they probably don't remember right? It's been so long ago. We've moved on I saw them at the mall.

We just said hi, you know We all there's no excuses here. Just go to them go quickly and every time you do that. There's a freeing aspect there Whether you're right or wrong you see it doesn't matter If there you remember that your brother has something against you like oh, he's got something against me It's not even this person's fault necessarily.

We know if it's our fault We need to go and ask for forgiveness But he's even saying listen if somebody's got something against you go to them say listen We need to resolve this it happened years ago months ago. Whatever it is. Let's resolve this.

That's at the heart of God But what we come in and we worship God, I know I've got that issue But I'm gonna come and work and we sometimes use worship as a mask to cover what we know. We don't need to do But I'm going to church, but I'm reading my Bible, but I'm doing but God says no get out and do some card examination Clean your heart. The second thing I glean from this is no matter who is to blame you take charge You take charge stop being in self-defense mode Yeah, but yeah, but and that's where pride

comes in yeah, but yeah But and I know this is an issue in many lives because I hear it a lot I'll talk to somebody and they'll yeah, but you don't know You know Shane they they just treated me this way for a long time, and they actually do this to me And well, let's go back to this issue Well, yeah, but you see the how they're not ready to deal with that and he says no matter who's to blame Just just take charge what I like to say suck it up Suck it up and deal with it go deal with it listen.

I'm sorry. This is wrong We need to work this out or anger apologize. That's how marriages get restored you realize that that's how relationships get restored That's how you many of you who want to be filled more with the Spirit of God and be desperate for more of God That's how you begin to be filled with the Spirit of God is you start to obey not in these well I haven't committed adultery.

I haven't killed anybody you saying I don't look at your heart We've got a lot of people coming in our churches. They're carrying if you could open them up It would be a cesspool of filth of resentment and bitterness their care. It's almost like not a backpack They're cut they're carrying a u-haul of Unforgiveness and bitterness over that person that person that person that person God says I didn't even design you to be that way if I forgave you if I sent my son to forgive you he could he bore the sin of humanity for something He didn't even commit If I did that to you surely Surely you can forgive others God and Christ Jesus who forgave us It's that it's a releasing power That's why I'm passionate about this area too because I've seen a break I've seen a break people be healed marriages restored relationships restored people get a pat They go Shane the Word of God was dead for two years until I finally resolved that issue with my other spouse Then the Word of God became alive again.

I hungered for it. I thirsted for what was it? What was the disconnect what I like to call the kink in the water hose? That story I told if last year when my son he does this a lot He goes out and turns the water hose on off full and then nothing's coming out. He comes and gets me So here's what you got to do You see this kink take that one out and that one out and then he can't even hold it It's gets it gets wet.

He starts crying a little bit. What what what happened? Same thing with us. There's kinks in the hose.

No wonder No wonder you come in week in and week out and you just I want what Shane's talking about But I don't know how to get it. I want to be closer to God I want to be filled with the Spirit of God. I want to read this like he's talking about I want to have a passion for the thing I want all that shame but well because you got to start obeying what you know to be right you've got to clean the heart and as soon as the heart is clean you empty it of all this junk and then the Filling of the spirit comes in and fills you with peace love joy contentment long-suffering Gentleness kindness why because I just got out all the rudeness all the anger all the disgust all the pride not completely clean That's not on this side of the of heaven But at least you can make attempts God honors the heart saying Lord help me get these things out And I don't think I think a lot we look at these big sins.

That's what Jesus. That's what's so ironic with this Well, I don't commit and it's a big one I don't commit adultery and people say it to me a lot why I don't commit adultery. I've never really stole anything big I'm not addicted to pornography I've never murdered anybody and yeah, but you're you're inside you're you're like dead bones there It's just filth So what do we do? We have the stage we have the facade We put all this on so somebody can't really see we I mean to paint a pig pink Do you know what they wallow in? That's the most dirty animal on the face of the earth well It's why is it painted like that? Why does it look so nice and friendly here? It's a facade.

It's it's it's a staging. They're staging everything And that's what we do in our own lives if we don't deal with these issues unresolved anger has Consequences Jesus is paralleling this with the legal system Listen, if you don't work this out if you don't go to your adversary your adversary takes this to court You're in deep trouble I've told a lot of people back when I was in the more in the business world Listen, you better go and work this out because this is a legal nightmare that you do not want to take on Guess what happens They don't and it explodes. They see they cook the books They see that the IRS audited mom a million and a half short of my town You should have went and worked this well long ago It's a Lee.

He's talking about the legal system. So unresolved anger as well has consequences The problem with unresolved anger is a lot of times we can be angry and say I'm sorry be angry and say I'm sorry But the long-term effect is you'll eventually damage your marriage. You'll damage the relationship with your children You'll damage future relationships with others You'll damage your walk with the Lord because anger worketh not the righteousness of God Anger worketh not the righteousness of God.

You'll never get anything right through wrath and anger Never And so it's a hard pill to swallow, but it's okay. We need to hear it number four We think as long as I don't say anything, I'm good As long as I don't say anything, I'm good. I Come to church.

I worship. I'm just not gonna say anything. I'm good.

Jesus ain't no I see your heart See, we don't realize that I'm not gonna say anything that person I'm not gonna do I'm just gonna be just gonna close my mom good, but Jesus sees the heart He looks right to the heart of the matter. I need to get going. I won't get through all this We excuse bad attitudes with worship or service.

I talked about that. We come in That's what Jesus is talking about go and bring you bring your gift to the altar You're coming to worship God if you know, there's something in your heart. That's not right deal with it Don't wait because you know what happens it gets harder and harder and harder and harder to deal with it And we get a hard heart there because we're not dealing with it Verse six is or number six.

This will help a lot to that old cliché, you know hate the sin, but love the sinner That's really true. You can it really will help with anger if you hate the sin you see in them But you still try to love the person the way Christ loves us right hate that sin But love the sinner that's where a lot of this this this this anger comes from the reason the love of Christ is not shed Abroad in many hearts is because we're holding on to toxic emotions They are stifling our growth hindering our relationship with the Lord and quenching and grieving the Spirit of God How dare we worship with a toxic heart Jesus would say hypocrites Don't come and worship with a toxic heart because why because what worship is you're coming engaging God Worshiping giving him your heart repenting of those things It's a clean heart who may ascend into the hill Lord or stand in his holy place He who has a clean hands and a pure heart and who's not lifted up a soul to an idol So it's always an issue of the heart So God said you're coming here worshipping me or saying that you are but your heart is toxic We've got to get rid of these things this this anger or this pride This modern-day Pharisees and by all this rules and rules and rules and just be a humble broken people so then we can truly worship God our Outward actions simply reveal the condition of the heart Isn't that true? We talked about this this anger and all these these pride our outward actions simply reveal What's what's inside of our heart for out the abundance of the heart the mouth will speak it's eventually going to come out So the ironic or ironic thing about the silent sin is it's silent temporarily until it begins to run its course and Then that's when it comes out and it destroys everything in its wake As I said last week the law condemns but

Christ releases So a lot of what I'm saying might be condemning it might can be convicting But Christ wants to take all that and release all that from our lives again If there's no repentance there can be no pardon Let me take your attention back to that story the guy who's gonna be pardoned of his of his From his sentence his jail sentence He was gonna be pardoned the guy had the pardon in his pocket until he heard What was in that man's heart and the same thing applies to us if there's no repentance there can be no pardon from God And that's why I really I really harp on the subject of repentance because that's how we get back and right relationship with God It's through that repentance And another thing Basically on this closing note with the cross there as well, too I thought of this we try to stage our lives to avoid the cross Hide that cross get that cross out of out of here. I don't want to see that cross I want I want all this I want the cares of this world to to kind of you know lead me in and lead me It would basically lead to we lead me astray hide the cross get rid of the cross That's what the devil wants to do.

He wants to hide that cross from our lives But we live in this facade we live in the stage here It is I hide everything in my heart, and I've got this stage I've made and it hides the cross, but when the cross of Christ comes to the forefront no longer in the foreground That's when all these things can be exposed. That's when a sinner breaks and repents it comes back to God That's what many of us in our audience see the cross again. We remember the sin.

He died for it I need to repent of it think about that. We want to hold on to the very thing that Christ died for He says repent of it turn from it. No, but I want to hold on to it The cross of Christ releases And I want you to really get that point home that that releases all this this this this maybe this condemnation We're feeling or this conviction can be released tonight You can leave here pure as a trevon snow the Bible would say if you just Repent of these wrong attitudes this anger this unresolved issue.

Whatever it is you fill in the blank I don't need to come up here and this this this this you know what it is How do I know because if it's there God's convicting right now I've been dealing with with you on this for many years or many months this needs to change tonight And you fill in the blank I don't need to whether it's pride or legalism or jealousy or backbiting or gossip or slander or hypocrisy Whatever it is we come in we put on the facade we stage our lives we come in we worship God Everybody we play church and we leave but until you can break down that stage and that facade God can't work into your heart That's where it all starts I know many people shake their head, but do you know that the shaking of the head and saying this sounds great does nothing What what really makes a person change when the heart? Cries out to God and breaks and truly repents and say Lord these things are wrong. Would you help me? It's very healthy statement It's a very healthy thing get in your prayer life. That's why most people don't have a prayer life.

Can I be honest with you a Prayer life in the morning or late at night where you're in an hour with God and the Word of God in the Bible why? Because a prayer life will destroy Hypocrisy it will to it will rip if I had I could just rip this whole thing down in a matter of minutes That's what the prayer life does that's what the prayer closet does it rips all of our hypocrisy out of all of our facade We actually stand naked in front of God bearing everything because he sees everything That's why most people don't pray. That's why it's the hardest thing to do I'm actually speaking in men's conference in a few weeks in the in the guys to chain Would you come speak on prayer and worship? I said love to But don't tell the guys that cuz it's gonna bore him to death. They'll probably miss that session.

Why? Why do we want to? Avoid prayer and worship I'll listen to the message. I'll download messages all week, but I don't want to pray I don't want to worship why because both of those go right to the heart of

that you cannot sit and pray with God and Keep your little my little hypocrisy going my little facade my little stage I can't sit there in the morning and pray Lord help me Lord. Take this will take whatever I don't have anything to take away Just you know I can't you can't you can't pray you don't want to pray What do you want to do you want to turn on Fox News you want to take a drive you want to stay busy busy busy Busy busy people who have issues of the heart that need to be resolved do not pray Well, they'll say a three-minute little quick prayer before dinner Lord bless his food You know have this business deal go through and he'll heal my wife who's sick tonight.

Thank you Lord That's about it, but to really pray and to seek the heart of God That's where that's when the heart surgery takes place, and that's why many people do not do that So I want to offer that tonight's Chelsea comes up we're gonna end on this note of Seeking God during worship. She's gonna do another song or two and just whether you're in your seats Whether you're standing whatever you want to do. This is the time to do it Say Lord.

I need to work on these areas. Will you help me? Well, that's what preaching does it goes right to the heart of these issues and God wants to deal with them tonight So it's bow our heads and pray Lord We do ask that you remove these areas of our life story including my own life Lord areas of the heart that have crept up Lord even idolatry things that used to be small Lord, they're turning into big deals and we're putting them before you Lord, we pray tonight that we can put all of this at the cross We can leave all of the at the cross of Christ tonight Lord, I pray that you would begin to reveal areas in our lives Lord of jealousy or envy or unforgiveness Or bitterness or if there's things in the path or that we're holding on to that We need to be that need to be resolved tonight that that would take place Lord begin to work in our hearts so that we can be filled with your spirit and honor and serve you in a deeper way We ask this in Jesus name

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