

Psalm 32

"The Blessed Relief From Forgiveness"

*A Psalm of David. A Maskil.*¹

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.
Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

A1 THE BLESSEDNESS OF FORGIVENESS 32:1-2

B1 Transgression Lifted Up: How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,
32:1

B2 Sin Covered: Whose sin is covered!

B3 Iniquity Uncharged: {2} How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not
impute iniquity, 32:2

B4 Conscience Clear: And in whose spirit there is no deceit!

A2 THE SYMPTOMS OF UNCONFESSED GUILT 32:3-4

B1 Loss of Weight: {3} When I kept silent *about my sin*, my body wasted away 32:3

B2 Continual Groaning: Through my groaning all day long.

B3 Yahweh's Heavy Hand: {4} For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
32:4

B4 Loss of Energy: My vitality was drained away *as* with the fever heat of summer.

¹ Inscription - Maskil: "[It] probably means a contemplative or didactic poem." Charles Ryrie, *Ryrie Study Bible (RSB)* "...Maskil, a term used in the titles of thirteen Psalms (Pss. 32; 42; 44; 45; 52-55; 74; 78; 88; 89; 142). The term is translated psalm in Psalm 47:7. The origin of the term is disputed. Some see a connection with the root "to understand, ponder." Two of the maskils have clear references to instruction (Pss 32:8-9; 78:1). Others suggest that maskil might be a musical notation or an indication that these psalms were performed at festivals (for example, Ps. 78). Though most of the maskils are laments (Pss. 42; 44; 52; 54; 55; 74; 88; 142), other forms critical of types are grouped as maskils as well (Ps. 32, a thanksgiving for healing; Ps. 45, a psalm in celebration of a royal wedding; Ps. 78, a recitation of sacred history)." (*The Holman Bible Dictionary*)

A3 THE FORGIVENESS THROUGH CONFESSION 32:5

B1 David's Confession

- C1 Acknowledgment: {5} I acknowledged my sin to You,
- C2 Transparency: And my iniquity I did not hide;
- C3 Confession: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD";

B2 Yahweh's Forgiveness: And You forgave the guilt of my sin.

A4 THE EXHORTATION TO THE PEOPLE 32:6-11

B1 The Challenge to the Godly to Pray 36:6

- C1 The Challenge: {6} Therefore, let everyone who is godly pray to You in a time when You may be found;
- C2 The Reward: Surely in a flood of great waters they will not reach him.

B2 David's Gratefulness for Yahweh's Deliverance 32:7

- C1 He is a Place to Hide: {7} You are my hiding place;
- C2 He is a Preserver: You preserve me from trouble;
- C3 He is a Restorer of Songs of Praise: You surround me with songs of deliverance.

B3 David's Counsel to the People 32:8-11

- C1 David's Role as a Teacher 32:8
 - D1 Instruction: {8} I² will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go;
 - D2 Counsel: I will counsel you with My eye upon you.
- C2 David's Warning to be Sensitive, Unlike Beasts of Burden 32:9
 - D1 {9} Do not be as the horse or as the mule which have no understanding,
 - D2 Whose trappings include bit and bridle to hold them in check,
 - D3 *Otherwise* they will not come near to you. 32:9

² 32:8 - I: Though many, including the editors of *NASB*, take Yahweh as the speaker, the context before and after reveals David as the speaker.

- C3 David's Contrast to the People of Two Opposing Outcomes 32:10
 - D1 The Numerous Sorrows of the Wicked: *{10}* Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
 - D2 Yahweh's All-Encompassing Loyal Love for Those Who Trust Him: But he who trusts in the LORD, lovingkindness shall surround him.
- C4 David's Challenge to the Upright to Find Their Joy in Yahweh! 32:11
 - D1 Joy in Yahweh: *{11}* Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous ones;
 - D2 Exuberance in Yahweh: And shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart.

Expanded Analysis of Psalm 32
Prepared by James T. Bartsch
July, 2003, updated November, 2019

Published by WordExplain.com
Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.
Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)