

**Intro:** We can not hide our *sins* from God. It will always find us out, Num. 32:23.

The principal of *sowing* and *reaping* applies to believers as well as un-believers, Gal. 6:7-9, Job. 4:8.

God's *grace* does not eliminate the principals of *choices* and consequences.

#### I. Chastisement

God's Chastisement is always forward looking.

It's not meant to *punish* but to *correct* and to prepare.

Chastening is an expression of God' *love*, Heb.12:5-13, Prov. 3:11-12.

## II. David's Response

## A. He fasted and prayed,

These aren't *tools* to get what we want from God, they *demonstrate* submission to God's sovereignty.

His mourning was for *repentance*, not the loss of a child.

David's *prayers* were the exercise of his *faith*.

#### II. David's Response

# B. He faced the Consequences Realistically

David *washed* and changed his clothes, symbolizing a *new beginning*,

Because of God's *mercy* we can all make a new *beginning*, Isa. 59:1

David exercised great *spiritual* confidence as he worshipped God during this trial.

David believed in the *sovereignty* of God, and believed He was both *just* and merciful.

#### C. David Moved On

Bitterness and regret over yesterday's pain and failure can rob us of today's joy.

While there was *chastisement* for David's sin, his life wasn't *ruined*, Rom. 8:1.

We need to take Paul's cue, *Forget* the past, press towards the *future*, Phil. 3:13-14.