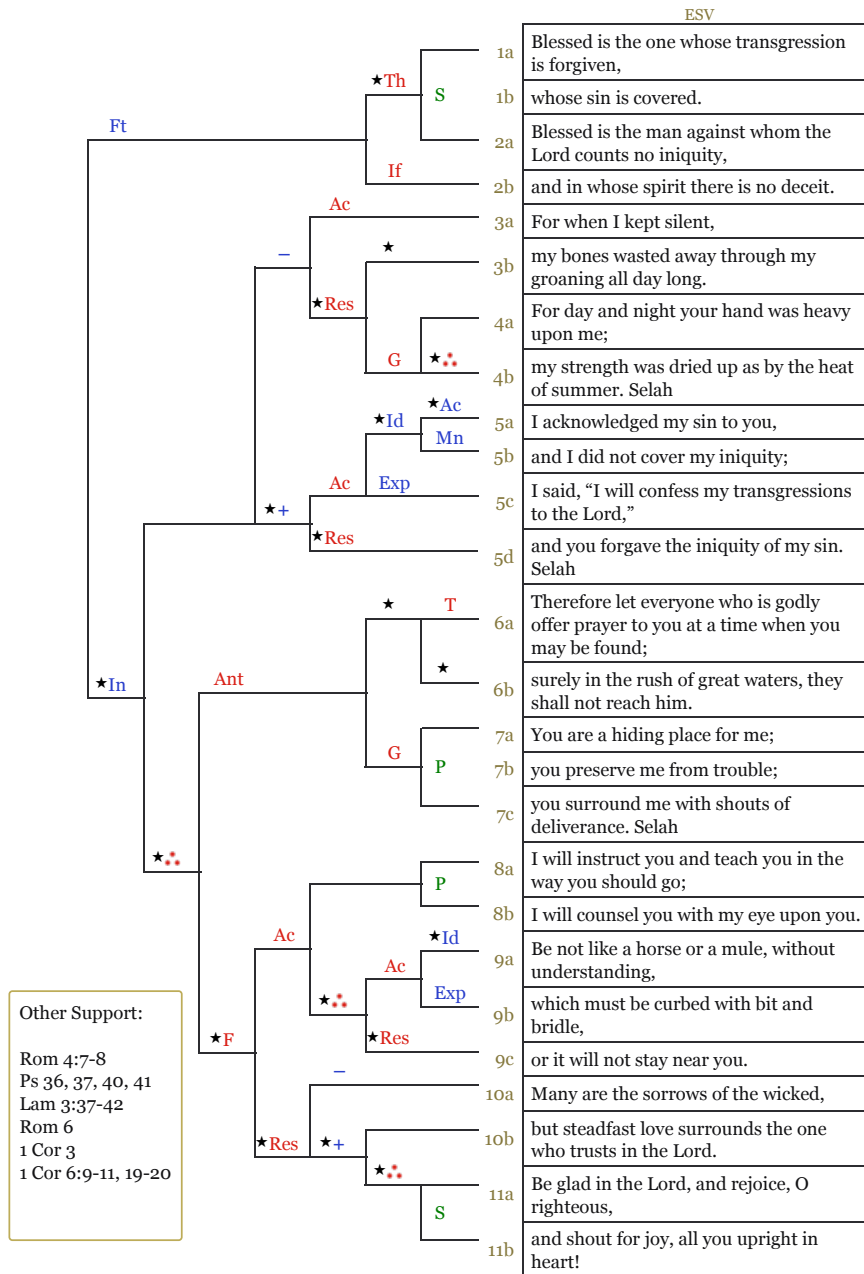


True Repentance *Bracket of Psalms 32:1-11*

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The introductory statement of fact (v1-2) is defended by the Psalmist (v3-10) and interpreted in the light of his experience to reveal a glorious truth of imputed righteousness (v11) and the transforming grace of God that enables heart level repentance (v11) that is not deceitful (v2b). See the three terms for unrighteousness below...

The believer will receive conviction and if he keeps silent and does not acknowledge his deep rebellion then he will waste away and enter a dry land until he repents (v5)...or he will prove himself unregenerate and under wrath (v10a).

Three terms for unrighteousness (v1, 5) reveal the depth of my problem and the needed depth of confession. My corruption ("iniquity" or *Hebrew, hawon*) is caused by my falling short of keeping his law ("sin" or *Hebrew, chattath*), which is caused by my heart level rebellion from his care and love ("transgression" or *Hebrew, peshah*). This rebellion is the deep matter that must be confessed and can never be covered up by offerings (good works) or prayer (shallow confessions) as shown in Isaiah 1:11-20.

Judgment is certain and the breaking of the waves of the wrath of God is not the time to seek refuge (v6)! Repent now! This is the time of favor, Today is the day of salvation (v7)!

When I am broken over my rebellion and I confess it without hiding it from God he responds by training me intimately (v8; Titus 2:11-14). Therefore I do not need to merely seek exterior controls to "keep me on track" but I can have heart level change of motives and desires. If I do not have this kind of transformation the so-called repentance will not "take" (v9).

The one who seeks his own righteousness in rebellion will be sorrowful continually (v10a) but the one who trusts Jesus for righteousness in surrender will rejoice (v10b)!

This conclusion (v11) reveals that the believer who is broken over his rebellion and confesses it is in that moment righteous and upright in heart!