

# ACCOUNTABILITY

## KINDS OF:

### 1. Universal (Everyone): Romans 14:12

As we all stand before Christ, we will give account of our life (thoughts, deeds, motives). See also: 2 Corinthians 5:10; Matthew 25:1-9; Ecclesiastes 12:14

### 2. Personal: 2 Samuel 12:1-5

Example: Nathan the prophet sent by God to David

God's love for David to deal with the sin, bring repentance and reconciliation with God. The parable Nathan gives David was construed to make David, unwittingly, pass sentence on himself – where he would take responsibility for His sin. An example of how God will use others to hold us accountable.

### 3. Personal and family: Joshua 7:1-26

The example relates to Achan and the results of his sin to himself as well as his family. God held each of them accountable because they were guilty of being in direct defiance to an explicit command of God (see Deuteronomy 20:16-18). We may never realize how the consequences of something we do or don't do may affect many. In Achan's case:

- a. Many men died (Joshua 7:5)
- b. Israel's army "caved in" because of fear (Joshua 7:5)
- c. Joshua questioned God (Joshua 7:7-9)
- d. God threatened to withdraw His presence from the people (Joshua 7:12)
- e. Achan and his family had to be destroyed (Joshua 7:24-26)

### 4. Personal and national: 2 Samuel 24:1-17

David takes a census. Why would God tell David to do something that would displease God? God doesn't cause people to sin, but he does allow sinners to reveal the sinfulness of their hearts by their actions. God presented the opportunity to David in order to deal with a disastrous national tendency and He wanted this desire to show itself. David's sin: pride and ambition

God ended up dealing with the whole nation through David.

### 5. Delayed but exacted: 2 Samuel 21:1-14

A famine for 3 years. David inquired of the Lord for the reason: because of the blood shed by Saul and his sons.

Delayed: an example of a previous administration's offenses

### 6. Final: Romans 2:1-12

Often, sins we notice in others are ones that have taken root in us. The Judgment of God is according to truth. God does not show partiality. All guilty persons are under condemnation. He will repay each one according to his works. His judgments are final!

## **DETERMINED BY:**

### **1. Personal responsibility: Ezekiel 18:1-24**

In this portion of Scripture, the people of Judah believed they were being punished for the sins of their ancestors, not their own. However, God judges each person individually. Although we may suffer from the effects of sins committed by our ancestors, God does not punish us for someone else's sins. Each person is accountable for our own actions and each one of us will stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ to answer for what we have done since we became a believer.

### **2. Our faithfulness: Matthew 25:14-30**

We need to be faithful to what God gives to us and calls us to do. We will give an account of it.

### **3. Knowledge: Luke 12:47, 48**

The parable Jesus gives teaches that greater knowledge brings greater responsibility. See also Leviticus 26:18

### **4. Conscience: Romans 2:12-16**

Paul makes the point that people are condemned not for what they don't know, but rather for what they do with what they know. Those with more access to the truth will be judged far more strictly than those without.

### **5. Maturity of judgment: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13**

Example: Eating of meat offered to idols.

"Edifying" is to please one's neighbor. Knowledge only says all things are lawful but love adds: but all things do not edify.