

David's Heir: Law of Volitional Responsibility: Every Person is Responsible for His Own Decisions; Saul Operated from the Cosmic Systems & Received Constant Discipline as a Result; David Did Likewise, but Confessed His Sins, Ps 51:4; His Discipline Was Designed to Rid Him of Guilt Resulting in Blessings

Law of Volitional Responsibility:

- A. Definition and Description:
1. Volition is the decision-maker of the soul. The believer is free to make choices that are in-line with the Word of God or not.
 2. As a free moral agent, the believer's volition produces thoughts, decisions, and actions for which he is responsible before the Lord.
 3. Good decisions broaden future options while bad decisions limit future options. Our emphasis in this section will be on bad decisions, for which Saul was held accountable.
 4. Since free will decisions come under the law of volitional responsibility, Saul was responsible for causing his own misery and suffering.
 5. He fell under the law of divine punitive action by which God disciplined him to remove the guilt caused by his emotional sins and for judging David.
 6. When divine punishment continues following confession alone to God alone, the purpose is to convert cursing into blessing.
 7. David was responsible for a list of sins, some of which were grievous crimes that he confessed to God:
Psalm 51:4 - Against you and you only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified when You speak and blameless when You judge. (NASB)
 8. As a result, David was forgiven, but he was required to endure divine punitive action. This is a process of discipline designed to remove the guilt of his sins.