

## Presumptuous Sins

Psalm 19:13

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To our minds, there are many types of sin. Some are heinous crimes of which few, if any, in our acquaintance are guilty. If someone we know is, we cringe in shock and disgust. Murder, rape, alcoholism to name a few. There are other sins which we like to think of as not so big or bad. They are the commonplace, "garden variety" of sins that clutter the lives of many - holding grudges, uncontrolled temper, unkind words, gossip, little "white lies", and an occasional cheating for personal gain. Oh, these are sins alright, but we tend to excuse them, perhaps because they are so common or maybe because we fail to grasp the attitude of God toward sin. Sin, remember, is defined by the Bible as the transgression of God's law.

In Psalm 19:13 David classifies sins differently. Listen.

Also keep back Thy servant from presumptuous sins; Let them not rule over me;  
Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.

Presumptuous sins are those which are born out of pride and arrogance, those which develop from our stubborn obstinacy, our failure to fully submit to the Lord. This is serious business for each of us. Presumptuous sin is deliberate sin and its practice can gain control of us until, finally, it can so dominate our lives as to reign victoriously. Realizing that prompted David to pray that presumptuous sins not have dominion over him.

Presumption can lead to the downfall of an otherwise godly person. The Bible teaches that we have liberty in Christ but that liberty is always to be exercised within the framework of God's will, always within the bounds of the law that He gave. Galatians 5:1 affirms, "It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm...." Here Paul's idea of freedom is found in standing firm. Later in verse 13, Paul speaks of being called to freedom that we might be servants one to another. Yes, we are free in Christ. At liberty. But that liberty is always borne of discipline, the discipline of being in God and of being godly. John puts it this way in 2 John 9. "Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God;.."

Lord, help us realize that as we sin we need to repent and ask Your forgiveness. But, Lord, we beg you, like David did, to keep us back from presumptuous sin so they not gain control over us.