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**Cover or Be Covered**

***Psalm 32***

**Topic:**

**Theme:**

**Thrust:**

# Introduction

### Interest:

#### The last Japanese soldier, Lt. Onoda, was given instructions in 1944 to harass the enemy from his island in the Philippines—and, under no circumstances, should he surrender.

#### He did this successfully until the War was over, but he didn’t know that it had ended. Various Filipinos sent him notices to Lubong Island but he still would not surrender. Japanese officers did the same, but he remained in hiding.

#### Even a young Japanese tourist traveling the world found him and befriended him. Yet he still would not leave. He noted, “I will not surrender until ordered to do so by my commanding officer.” So finally, the Japanese government looked up his officer, flew him to Lubong Island, and he ordered him to surrender. This alone made Lt. Onoda to emerge from the jungle in full uniform, including his rifle in top condition.

#### The date of his emergence was March 1974, which was 29 years after the end of the war!

### Need: We also hide when surrounded by a stronger opponent (e.g., Adam & Eve)

### Subject: How do we get out of the sin and hide cycle?

### Background: David wrote this psalm after his sin with Bathsheba.

### Text: Psalm 32

### Preview: It shows him sinning (1-2) and then hiding (3-4). Then it shows what he should do instead.

# I. We sinners sin (1-2).

## A little girl doesn’t want grandma to look at her to see her sinning.

## The friends get together to roast their friend with criticism, also saying, “God, please don’t look at us right now.”

## The student has studied hard for the exam but gets stuck on only one question. A quick glance at another’s paper is justified with, “Well, I knew that answer anyway.”

## We sometimes spend 12 hours a day at the office or as much time at the Internet to cover our sin.

# II. We sinner hide (3-4).

## Hiding has physiological and psychological consequences—palms sweat, hands tremble—but then after a distraction our minds “return to the scene of the crime.”

## A sinner who hides is compared to a stubborn mule (v. 8).

## Many are the woes of the wicked (v. 10).

(Isn’t there a better alternative?)

# III. Confess (5).

## I will read a list of sins and you raise your hand if it applies to you (no kidding). For example…

### I have prayed more fervently for the Lions to win the Malaysia Cup than I have prayed for my pastor and leaders.

### I spend more time updating my facebook status than in Scripture.

### I have zipped into a parking spot ahead of others.

### I have interrupted a slow speaker so I can say what I want.

### I have not considered others better than myself.

# Conclusion

###  (MI).

### Main Points

### Exhortation/Application