

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a ground covered in fallen leaves. The scene is overlaid with large white text. The text is arranged in two lines: the first line reads "OWNING UP" and the second line reads "TO CONSEQUENCES".

OWNING UP
TO CONSEQUENCES

OUT OF YOUR HANDS

- We rarely get to dictate the form or severity of the consequences we face. Notice Proverbs 6:26-35 – even a single act of adultery can:
 - Destroy relationships;
 - Lead to a violent act of vengeance;
 - Cause a disease that might be fatal;
 - Make one feel isolated or stigmatized.
- These consequences are all out of our control, and no amount of prayer or repentance can make them magically go away.



THE BENEFITS OF CONSEQUENCES



EVERYTHING IS

TEMPORARY

EXCEPT HEAVEN & HELL



CONSEQUENCES

SERVE AS A WARNING TO OTHERS

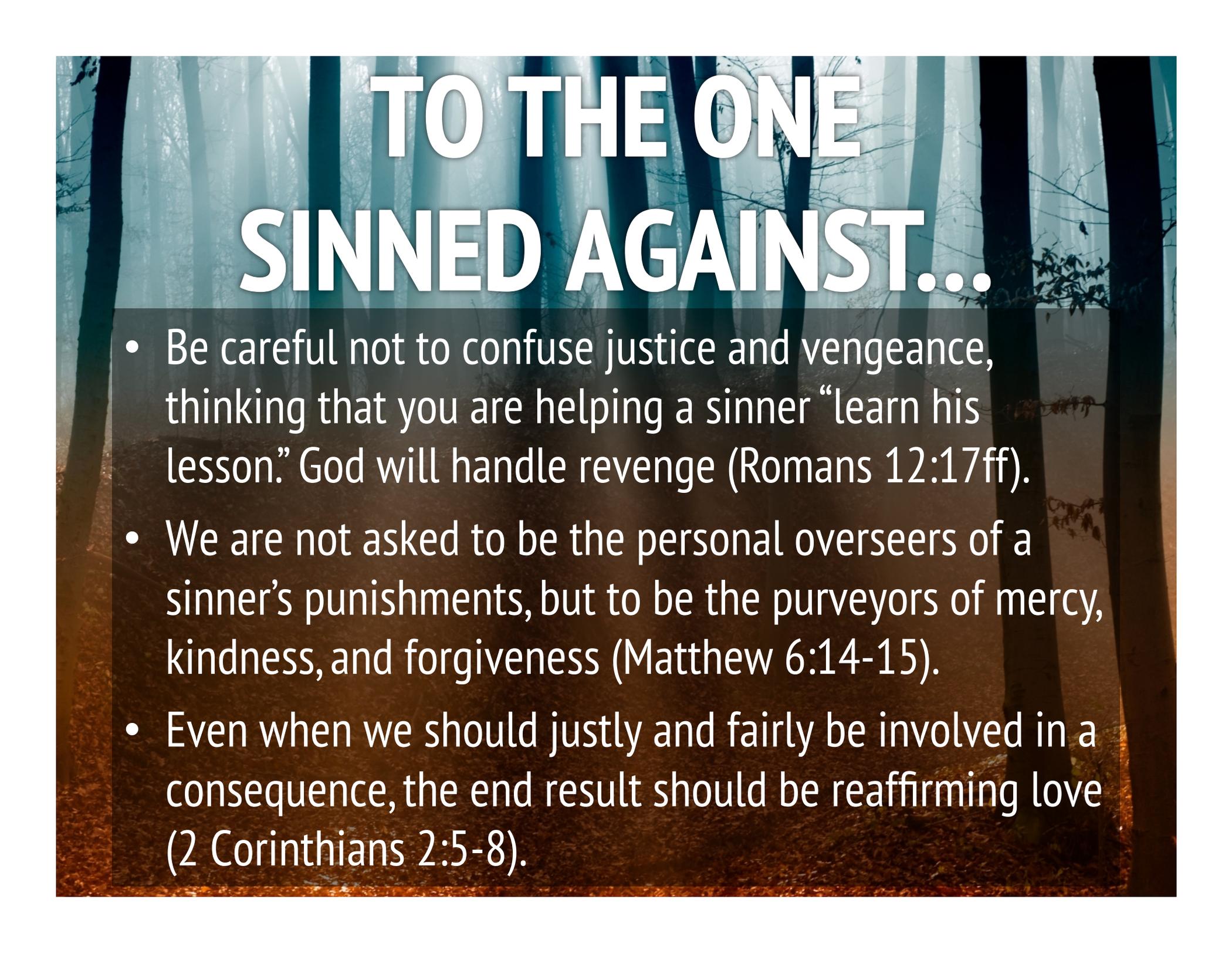
CONSEQUENCES



CAN BREAK THE HOLD SIN HAS ON US

WHAT YOU HAVE ESCAPED

- Instead of being upset over lingering consequences, we should feel grateful that we are alive to suffer through them and grow. Not everybody gets to enjoy time for self-reflection and correction.
- While frustration might be natural, try to look back on the direction that sin was taking you and ask if things would be better if you had been allowed to continue living in it, uninterrupted by consequences. Sin makes us slaves (2 Timothy 2:24-26, Romans 6:12ff).



TO THE ONE SINNED AGAINST...

- Be careful not to confuse justice and vengeance, thinking that you are helping a sinner “learn his lesson.” God will handle revenge (Romans 12:17ff).
- We are not asked to be the personal overseers of a sinner’s punishments, but to be the purveyors of mercy, kindness, and forgiveness (Matthew 6:14-15).
- Even when we should justly and fairly be involved in a consequence, the end result should be reaffirming love (2 Corinthians 2:5-8).