

Psalm 51

Background: David writes this Psalm after he is confronted by Nathan and his sin with Bathsheba is exposed. See 2 Samuel Chapter 12.

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

Psalm 51 – recorded as a warning to all. True confession.

- Asks for mercy from God. It is in His nature to have mercy because of His love. His mercy doesn't run out. In God's mercy He is able to erase our sins and mistakes.
- Washing causes us to be cleansed from our sins.
 - The blood of Christ sprinkled upon the conscience
 - Reconciled us to God
 - Needs a deep washing because he has been in this condition for a while
 - He already was pardoned but the sin is still on his mind so he has to forgive himself

⁴ Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. ⁵ Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Confession of evil and who it is that he has offended. Sin always offends God. God sees when we sin.

- God hates sin
- Sin must be judged and cleansed.
- This sin before him...may keep him from doing this thing again

⁶ Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

We started out in sin...before we even came out...sin was in us.

God concerned about the inside more than the outward. If God does it then you are really clean.

God justified when we condemn ourselves rather than defend ourselves in sin



Hyssop....the bush used to apply the blood. Sign of faith? The blood cleans. God is the one who does the washing...the right way to get you truly clean.

- Not just knowledge....but asking for the application!
- Pardon my sins and let me know they are pardoned
- Restore what I have lost through sin
- Isa 1:18
- Isa 44:2

⁸ Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. ⁹ Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹ Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. ¹² Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Asks to hear joy and gladness to replace the brokenness. Don't look upon my sins and blot out my wrong doings.....erase my record.

Create a new heart. God is able to do this.

Renew a right spirit...a constant spirit. David prays not to be cast away from His presence and fellowship...so sin does that. Wants the Holy Spirit to stay with him.

Restoring the lost joy of salvation that sin took away.

Free spirit...working freely. We allow the Holy Spirit to be free to perform his work in us by us putting our flesh out of the way.

Note: I see feast steps here. The order of the process is important. Hearing the good news of the Gospel allows us to realize His plan and be glad. The brokenness and hiding or burying of sins points to repentance (2nd Feast); creation of the new heart points to the new resurrected life of Christ in our lives giving us new hope (3rd Feast – First Fruits). The gift of the Holy Spirit and restoration with the fullness of the Spirit operating within us points to the baptism of the Spirit (4th Feast – Pentecost).

¹³ Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Teach others the way to repentance like he is experiencing...process...can't teach until the other four steps of the process above are performed. You need the leading and power of the Holy Spirit. When I'm teaching other then:

- There is joy in my life
- When repentance and forgiveness occurs, then I can minister...
- We are not disqualified from ministry after repentance



Goal of teaching is to convert sinners. David is uniquely qualified to teach the word because of his experiences.

¹⁴ Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. ¹⁵ O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Prays against the guilt of sin and instead for the grace of God. Guilt had closed his lips but now he has a reason to praise.

We must understand and believe that there is no condemnation for those who have correctly come back to Christ. Stop condemning yourself over past mistakes when God has forgiven you.

¹⁶ For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. ¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. ¹⁸ Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

Offers the sacrifice of a penitent and contrite heart. If that is a sacrifice then it must be with some difficulty that we offer it...must mean self must offer this up.

The sacrifice that He accepts deals with the heart. God accepts a broken heart; Isa 57:15 – one of my favorite verses.

Important for us to be right for the sake of others in building the kingdom.

