

Creating a Clean Heart

Scripture: Psalm 51

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I. Introduction

- Cleaning
- Clean jokes
- Scripture: Psalm 51, " 1 For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. 4 Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. 5 Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me."

II. Honesty About Our Sin

- David – a man after God’s own heart
- Paul - 1Timothy 1:15, "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save **sinner**--of whom I am the worst."
- Isaiah 53:6 " We all, like sheep, have gone **astray**, each of us has turned to his own way..." Romans 3:8, 23 "There is no-one righteous, not even one... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
- Genesis 3:21, "The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them."
- Sacrificial System
- John 1:29, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world."

- Why is sin so difficult to realize today? When are you able to honest about sin? How do we make honesty about sin a part of our worship?

III. Confession of Our Sin

Psalm 51:7, *"Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. 9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity."*

1. It Humbles Us

- Philippians 2:3, *"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."*

2. It Frees Us

- God, I can't do it on my own
- How are we set free by the confession of our sins?

3. It Qualifies Us to Receive God's Spirit

- Matthew 5:3, *"**Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**"*
- Psalm 51:10, *"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."*

4. It Empowers Me to Worship God with Love and Joy

- Psalm 51:14, *"Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise."*
- All Roads Lead to the Cross

- "The death of Christ is the central point of history; here all roads of the past converge; hence all the roads of the future diverge." -*Stephen Neill*-
- Psalm 51:16, "*You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*"