

## Psalm 51 Prayer of Godly Repentance

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

- **David:** Man after God's own heart
  1. **Blessed by God's Faithfulness** Shepherd boy to King
  2. **Blessed w/God's Promise** Eternal Kingdom fulfilled in Jesus

**2 Samuel 7:16** And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." ...**18** Then King David went in and sat before the Lord; and he said: "**Who am I, O Lord God?** And what is my house, that You have brought me this far?"

- Lust. Adultery. Pregnancy. Deceit. Murder. Coverup.
- **One year passed:** David/Bathsheba married. David has not dealt w/sin till now

**Repentance:** Turn from sin to God never look back

**2 Corinthians 7:10** ...godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted

- **God Prompted David's Repentance:** Prophet Nathan tells story...
  1. Rich man w/many sheep. Poor man w/one as pet
  2. Traveler visits rich man who takes/eats poor man's pet for dinner

**2 Samuel 12:5** So David's anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! 6 And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity. "7 Then Nathan said to David, "**You are the man!** ...**13** So David said to Nathan, "**I have sinned against the Lord.**" And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die. 14 However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die."

### Unspeakable Collateral Damage of Sin

**2 Samuel 22b...** I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

- **Shame, Weakness, Pain:** Choose to sin choose to suffer
  1. Israel humiliated
  2. Nations blaspheme
  3. Marital Issues
  4. Sexual sin plagues David's family. Rape/Incest
  5. **David is never the David he was**, but he is forgiven...

This great song, pulsating with the agony of a sin-stricken soul, helps us to understand the **stupendous wonder of the everlasting mercy** of our God. [G. Campbell Morgan]

**1** Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. **2** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. **3** For I

acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. **4** Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight— That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge. **5** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. **6** Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. **7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. **8** Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. **9** Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. **10** Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. **11** Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. **12** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. **13** Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. **14** Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, And my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. **15** O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. **16** For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. **17** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise. **18** Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem. **19** Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

### Prayer of Godly Repentance

- **V1 Blot out my transgression** Trans-aggression [presumptuous sin]

**Isaiah 43:25** I, even I, am He who **blots out your transgressions** for My own sake; And **I will not remember your sins.**

- **V2 Wash/Cleanse me** David feels dirty. Jesus felt that on the cross
- **V3 Sin always before me** Shocks my system/Try to suppress it
- **V4 Against You/You were right:** Choose to sin choose to suffer. God's way is right

**Vv5-6 Born in sin/Continued to sin /Unclean yet know your desire is to clean me**

**V7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

- Hyssop dipped in blood/placed on wood/caused death to pass by. [Ex 12]

**Hebrews 9:14** ... how much more shall the **blood of Christ**, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself **without spot to God, cleanse your conscience** from dead works to serve the living God?

- **V8 Let me again** hear joy Feel soundness in my body
- **V9 Hide Your face from Me** Your holiness should not come close to me
- **V10 Create New Heart/Spirit** David trusted God's heart to restore
- **Vv11-12 Do not take your Spirit** Came upon those in OT giving joy as in NT

**Vv 13-15** David decides to prove out what he knew about God's heart. Restoration  
When you finished crushing me let me teach others and praise you. Feed my Sheep

- David will continue to draw close to God
- David will not give up/give in to self-pity

When David is reminded of his sin he will trust in God who is greater than his heart  
God's promise of refreshing after repentance...No matter how dark the sin

**Acts 3:19 Repent** therefore and be converted, that your **sins may be blotted out**, so that **times of refreshing** may come from the presence of the Lord,

- **Vv. 16-17** True sacrifice is being broken before God

**V 17** The sacrifices of God are a **broken spirit**, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise.

**Isaiah 57:15** For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, **whose name is Holy**: "I dwell in the high and holy place, **With him who has a contrite and humble spirit**, To **revive the spirit of the humble**, And to **revive the heart of the contrite ones**."

**Isaiah 66:2b...** on this one will I look: On him who is **poor and of a contrite spirit**, And who **trembles at My word**.

- **Vv18-19** I will take whatever you give me...but build the walls of Jerusalem

Build back the faith of those people who are struggling because of my sin

**IOWs** Take away all the hurt I have caused others by destroying the faith of those who trusted me as an example that they might be able to once again serve you. Ouch.

Choose to sin...Choose to suffer. But only here for a time. Yet...

God offers refreshment/restoration to those who take responsibility for their sin

## **Psalm 52** Destruction of the Wicked/Peace of the Godly

To the Chief Musician. A Contemplation of David when Doeg the Edomite went and told Saul, and said to him, David has gone to the house of Ahimelech.

- David flees Saul. Men hungry. David goes to priest at asks for bread/weapon

**1 Samuel 21:7** Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before the Lord. And **his name was Doeg**, an Edomite [flesh] **...8** And David said to [the priest], "Is there not here on hand a *spear or a sword*? For I have brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste." **9** So the priest said, "The **sword of Goliath the Philistine**, whom you killed in the Valley of Elah, there it is, wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you will take that, take it. For **there is no other except that one here**." And David said, "There is none like it; give it to me."

- **Doeg tells Saul:** Result is a bloodbath...

**1 Samuel 22:17** [King Saul] said to the guards who stood about him, "Turn and kill the **priests of the Lord**, because their hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled and did not tell it to me." But the servants of the king would not lift their hands to strike the priests of the Lord. **18** And the **king said to Doeg**, "**You turn and kill the priests!**" So Doeg the Edomite turned and struck the priests, and killed on that day **eighty-five men who wore a linen ephod**. **19** Also Nob, the city of the priests, he struck with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and nursing infants, oxen and donkeys and sheep— with the edge of the sword.

- David begins against Doeg those like him...

**1** Why do you boast in evil, O mighty man? The goodness of God endures continually. **2** Your tongue devises destruction, Like a sharp razor, working deceitfully. **3** You love evil more than good, Lying rather than speaking righteousness. Selah **4** You love all devouring words, You deceitful tongue. **5** God shall likewise destroy you forever; He shall take you away, and pluck you out of your dwelling place, And uproot you from the land of the living. Selah **6** The righteous also shall see and fear, And shall laugh at him, saying, **7** "Here is the man who did not make God his strength, But trusted in the abundance of his riches, And strengthened himself in his wickedness." **8** But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God; I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever. **9** I will praise You forever, Because You have done it; And in the presence of Your saints I will wait on Your name, for it is good.

- **V1 Boasting in evil:** Doeg shows no regret
- **V2 Tongue devising evil:** Small yet setting fire ablaze. Here causing carnage
- **Vv3-4: Love evil than good/Lies than Truth:** Bottom line in judgment

**2 Thessalonians 2:10** [Ac is coming] ...with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the **love of the truth**, that they might be saved. **11** And for this reason God will send them **strong delusion**, that they should **believe the lie**, **12** that they all may be condemned who **did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.**

**John 3:19** [This is the reason evil is condemned] ...**light has come into the world**, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. **20** For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. **21** But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

- **V5 Judgment for unrighteous** Suddenly taken away/plucked out from home
- **Vv 6-8 When dust settles** Righteous: Last laugh/I told you so's
- **V8 Contrast righteous:** Green Tree relishing in Light of God's Mercy
- **V9 Praise of God's Goodness** vs Weeping gnashing of teeth

## **Psalm 53** Godless Philosophy vs God's Truth

To the Chief Musician. Set to "Mahalath." A Contemplation of David.

**1** The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, and have done abominable iniquity; There is none who does good. **2** God looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. **3** Every one of them has turned aside; They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one. **4** Have the workers of iniquity no knowledge, Who eat up my people as they eat bread, And do not call upon God? **5** There they are in great fear Where no fear was, For God has scattered the bones of him who encamps against you; You have put them to shame, Because God has despised them. **6** Oh, that the

salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of His people, Let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

- Very Similar to Psalm 14
- **Fool:** Those who say/act like there is no God. Fool/Godless synonyms

The godless suppress revealed truth/Replace it w/a lie to accommodate sin

- **v1 Godless Philosophy leads to Godless Acts:** Corrupt Lives/Abominable sins
- **Abominable:** Abhorrent/Detestable/Loathsome/Puke inducing

The Godless have no moral reference point w/out Word/Spirit  
Inner Compass points nowhere/anywhere relative to how they feel

- Root of godless philosophy is **Pride**. I am all there is/getting better all the time?

**Psalm 10:4** The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; **God is in none of his thoughts.**

Convincing ourselves God does not exist...does not cause God to cease to exist  
Simply kicking can of judgment down road

- **Truth:** We are not good, and we know it

**Not only born bad but spiritually dead  
We become alive receive the Spirit of Jesus**

**Ephesians 2:12** And you *He made alive*, who were **dead in trespasses and sins**, <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, <sup>3</sup> among whom also we all once **conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh**, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were **by nature children of wrath**, just as the others. <sup>4</sup> **But God**, who is rich in mercy, because of His **great love** with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were **dead in trespasses, made us alive** together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

We all Enter this World Sinful/Dead/Dark  
Until Jesus becomes our Righteousness/Life/Light

**Ephesians 5:8** For you were once darkness, but now you are **light in the Lord. Walk as children of light** <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), <sup>10</sup> finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

- David wants Salvation for **all his fellow Israelites...**

**Oh, that the Salvation of Israel would come out of Zion!**

- **Paul paraphrases Psalm 53:** Salvation will come out of Zion [Jesus]

**Romans 11:26b...** The **Deliverer will come out of Zion**, And He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob; 27 For this is My covenant with them, When **I take away their sins.**"

- **Looking for a church?** What do they believe about Israel?

## Psalm 54 Deliverance from Pretenders

To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. A Contemplation of David when the Ziphites went and said to Saul, "Is David not hiding with us?"

**Ziphites:** Tattletale-ites. Always narking David out to Saul  
Those that pretend friendship/Gossip to others for our hurt

**1** Save me, O God, by Your name, And vindicate me by Your strength. **2** Hear my prayer, O God; Give ear to the words of my mouth. **3** For strangers have risen up against me, And oppressors have sought after my life; They have not set God before them. Selah **4** Behold, God is my helper; The Lord is with those who uphold my life. **5** He will repay my enemies for their evil. Cut them off in Your truth. **6** I will freely sacrifice to You; I will praise Your name, O Lord, for it is good. **7** For He has delivered me out of all trouble; And my eye has seen its desire upon my enemies.

- **V1 Vindicate me** Prove true w/evidence. God's Strength displayed
- **V2 Listen to me** Our prayers like incense rising

**Psalm 141:2** Let my prayer be set before You **as incense**, The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

**Revelation 5:8** ...when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden **bowls full of incense**, which are the **prayers of the saints**.

- **V3 Heathe rise up** Aha, aha
- **V4 God is my help** Using fellow believers to encourage
- **V5 Faith** **God** will deal with our enemies

**Romans 12:17** Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather **give place to wrath**; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but **overcome evil with good**.

- **V6 David focuses doing right:** Sacrifice/Praise because God is Good
- **V7 David focuses on God's past** dealings w/his enemies. God repays better we do

## Psalm 55 Betrayed by a Friend

To the Chief Musician. With stringed instruments. A Contemplation of David.

- **Ahithophel** David's adviser?/**Absalom** David's son?
- Both are a foreshadow Judas betraying Jesus

**1** Give ear to my prayer, O God, And do not hide Yourself from my supplication. **2** Attend to me, and hear me; I am restless in my complaint, and moan noisily, **3** Because of the voice of the enemy, Because of the oppression of the wicked; For they bring down trouble upon me, And in wrath they hate me. **4** My heart is severely pained within me, And the terrors of death have fallen upon me. **5** Fearfulness and trembling have come upon me, And horror has overwhelmed me. **6** So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. **7** Indeed, I would wander far off, And remain in the wilderness. Selah **8** I would hasten my escape From the windy storm and tempest." **9** Destroy, O Lord, and divide their tongues, For I have seen violence and strife in the city. **10** Day and night they go around it on its walls; Iniquity and trouble are also in the midst of it. **11** Destruction is in its midst; Oppression and deceit do not depart from its streets. **12** For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; Then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; Then I could hide from him. **13** But it was you, a man my equal, My companion and my acquaintance. **14** We took sweet counsel together, And walked to the house of God in the throng. **15** Let death seize them; Let them go down alive into hell, For wickedness is in their dwellings and among them. **16** As for me, I will call upon God, And the Lord shall save me. **17** Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice. **18** He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that was against me, For there were many against me. **19** God will hear, and afflict them, Even He who abides from of old. Selah Because they do not change, Therefore they do not fear God. **20** He has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; He has broken his covenant. **21** The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, But war was in his heart; His words were softer than oil, Yet they were drawn swords. **22** Cast your burden on the Lord, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved. **23** But You, O God, shall bring them down to the pit of destruction; Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; But I will trust in You.

- **Vv 1-5** Give ear/Don't hide                      Enemies loud/Provoking fear/Horror

**Psalm 116:3** The pains of death surrounded me, And the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow.

- **Vv 6-8** Give up/Fly away/Hide                      Selah: Instead take a breath
- **Vv 9 -11** Violence at my door                      Terrorist breaking in at dawn while I asleep

Who is causing David this tremendous oppression and fear?

- **Vv 12-14** One I trusted. My son? My confidant? **Both**
  1. Absalom rebelled against David who did nothing about rape of Tamar by Amnon
  2. Absalom recruited David's closest counselor Ahithophel...

**2 Samuel 15:12** Then **Absalom sent for Ahithophel ...David's counselor...**And the conspiracy grew strong, for the people with Absalom continually increased in number.

- David wondered if Absalom's rebellion further consequence of sin
- David flees Jerusalem as Shimei the Benjamite throws stones/dust
- Abishai David's mighty man wants to cut Shimei's head off...

**2 Samuel 16:11** David said to Abishai and all his servants, "See how my son who came from my own body **seeks my life**. How much more now may this Benjamite? Let him alone, and let him curse; for **so the Lord has ordered him**. 12 It may be that the Lord will look on my affliction, and that the Lord will repay me with good for his cursing this day."

- David is open to consequences for his past sin if God's will. This was not that.
- **Jesus was betrayed and had never sinned...**

**Psalms 41:9** [Prophesied of Judas] Even my own **familiar friend** in whom I trusted, Who ate my bread, Has lifted up his heel against me.

- **Vv 15 Let death seize them** David speaking from emotion/Then gets a grip
- **Vv 16-18 God's faithfulness** I will call/God will save as He has before. For me...

Even in the face of fear I will continue to do as I have always done.

**I will not be moved by the fear of man**

**Daniel 6:10** [Daniel told if He prayed to God he would be killed, so...] he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, **and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.**

- Focus on God's Faithfulness/Continue doing what I have always done THEN
- **Vv 19 Leave it completely with God** he's wiser than me

**Psalms 37:5** Commit your way to the Lord, **Trust** also in Him, And **He shall** bring it to pass.

- **Vv 20-21 Details** of betrayal/betrayer...who once was his friend

**Vv 22** David instruct others knowing we will all be betrayed by someone we trust  
Cast your burden on the LORD

**1 Peter 5:6** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 **casting all your care upon Him**, for He cares for you. [Know that the war will not end here] 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

**V 23** But You, O God, shall bring them down to the pit of destruction; Bloodthirsty and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; **But I will trust in You.**

- Our command is to love our enemies and leave it with God