

Honesty Will Bring Me Back to Him

Psalms 51:4-7

Introduction:

“At some point we need more than good advice; we need help. Somewhere on this journey home we realize that a fifty - fifty proposition is too little. We need more . . . We need help. Help from the inside out . . . Not near us. Not above us. Not around us. But in us. In the part of us we don’t even know. In the heart no one else has seen. In the hidden recesses of our being dwells, not an angel, not a philosophy, not a genie, but God.”

- Max Lucado

“Honesty does its greatest work when we realize, being honest with God means you become simultaneously honest with yourself.”

I. The power of honesty in our sincere confession. (V.4)

A. It was a powerful confession because he laid no blame on the Sovereign.

“Have you noticed how people who most ignore God are the first to blame Him in time of tragedy?”

- Priscilla Shirer

Psalms 51:4 *Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight:*

B. It was a powerful confession because he laid the blame on self.

Psalms 51:4 . . . *that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.*

II. The power of honesty to render clarity to our conscience. (V.5-6)

A. The power of acknowledgement to the sub-version of his humanity.

Psalms 51:5 *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*

David recognized something of the depth of his inclination to sin;

*“Sin is as much a part of me as the flesh and blood that makes up my body. It’s my heritage!
Oh, God, have mercy on me!”*

- Priscilla Shirer

B. The power of agreement to the stipulation of honesty.

Psalms 51:6 *Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.*

*“Never underestimate the power of honesty to bring wisdom concerning sin.
Until we are willing to be truthful, sin’s disease will remain active.”*

III. The power of honesty to receive cleansing from confession. (V.6)

*“Before asking God’s forgiveness there is something important you must do.
You must repent, that is, turn from the behavior and lifestyle that leads to sin.”*

- Billy Graham

A. He knew honesty would purge the contamination of sin.

Psalms 51:7 *Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean:*

*“The hyssop, was used as a sprinkler in various ceremonial cleansing of the leper. The psalmist prayed
for cleansing which would do for his soul what the hyssop did ceremonially for the leper.”*

- John Phillips

B. He knew honesty would purge the condemnation of sin.

Psalms 51:7 . . . *wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*

*“So, he says, ‘wash me’. That deals with the pollution of sin. And then, he says, ‘purge me’. That deals with the
power of sin. Not only does he take away the penalty, not only does he take away the pollution, but, friend, he
literally purges you on the inside. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! This is God’s triple detergent.*

And you don’t need to go around with a load of guilt anymore.”

- Adrian Rogers