

Made New
Psalm 51
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn about repentance and a humble heart from this Psalm.

Intro: 1. Psalm 51 is one of the most well-known psalms, mostly because of verse 5.
2. However, there is much to learn about being humble, repentance, forgiveness, mercy, and restoration from this psalm.

I. The Appeal, Need, & Basis for Mercy

A. The Appeal for mercy (v.1-2)

1. Mercy is according to God's loving kindness and mercy (**v.1a**)
2. His mercy would result in blotting out David's transgressions (**v.1b**)
3. He asked to be fully cleansed from his sin, just as we would do today (**v.2**)

B. The Need for mercy (v.3-5)

1. The need for mercy is clear, his sin is always before him. (**v.3**)
 - a. There is no hiding it, it's right in front of his face.
2. He recognizes that he has broken God's law, not man's law (**v.4a**)
3. His justice is just and blameless because it is God's law he has broken. Therefore punishment is just and fits the crime (**v.4b**).
4. He was brought forth into a world that was filled with sin (not unlike today) and a world that embraces and promotes sinful actions (again, not unlike today). (**v.5**)
 - a. The sin mentioned here cannot be inherited sin as that would violate a number of scriptures (Ezk 18:20 for one!). Since God is consistent and so is His word, this cannot be inherited sin that David is referencing.

C. The Basis for mercy (v.6)

1. The basis for mercy is that this is what God wants to provide! (**v.6a**)
2. He will changed David from the inside (the hidden part, the heart) to the outside. (**v.6b**)

II. The Results & Praise of Mercy

A. The Results of Mercy (v.7-13)

1. God's mercy brings a purging of sin, symbolized with hyssop and washing (**v.7a**)
2. The result is being whiter than snow and bring rejoicing (**v.7b-8**)
3. David's requests blotting out his sins (**v.9**), creating a clean heart and new spirit within him (**v.10**).
4. He requests not to be cast away, to be restored to knowing the joy of salvation so that he could then teach others God's way (**v.11-13**).

B. The Praise of Mercy (v.14-15)

1. He request to be removed from the guilt of blood (**v.14**)
2. As a result he will sin His praises (**v.15**)

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. The Sacrifices of Mercy (v.16-18)

1. God desired something else (**v.16**)
2. God desired a broken & crushed spirit, a humble spirit before Him (**v.17**)
3. He then asks for God's good pleasure (**v.18**)

B. Results

1. God would be pleased with sacrifices once again, after he humbles himself (**v.17&19**)
2. Doing what God requires bring restoration.

Application & Conclusion:

1. This psalm emphasizes again and again the importance of being humble and repentant.
2. Only this type of heart in man will bring forgiveness and restoration to a right relationship with God.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9