

BELIEVER'S FELLOWSHIP: PSALM 51

DECEMBER 8, 2024

BACKGROUND:

And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, 'I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' (Acts 13: 22)

7 Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. 8 And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. 9 Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. (2 Samuel 12: 7 – 9)

Hidden Sin... Open Repentance

By Kathy Ragan

Full disclosure, God calling David, "a man after his own heart," mmm really? Yes, great things in David's life, but adultery, lying, and murder of his faithful warrior?

But, the "forward" to Psalm 51 challenged me to see with God's eyes. "To the choirmaster. A psalm of David when Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone into Bathsheba."

Who confesses in such detail and shares it as a new worship song? Perhaps, a heart completely repentant before his loving and merciful God.

Am I willing to humbly share and be "a woman after God's own heart"?

Shocking Statements:

- Have mercy on me, O God,
- Blot out my transgressions
- Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity
- Cleanse me from my sin
 - Why? The character of God
 - Steadfast love
 - Abundant mercy
- Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
 - Two Truths:
 - Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.
 - Is this an excuse or is it truly our reality?

- Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.
 - Is this simply head knowledge or desperately clinging to what he knows?
- **Purge** me with hyssop, and I shall be **clean**; **wash** me, and I shall be **whiter than snow**.
- Let me hear **joy and gladness**; let the bones that you have broken **rejoice**.
- **Hide** your face from my sins, and **blot** out all my iniquities.
- **Create** in me a **clean heart**, O God, and **renew** a right spirit within me.
- **Cast** me not away from your presence, and **take not** your Holy Spirit from me.
- **Restore** to me the **joy** of your salvation, and **uphold** me with a willing spirit.

Important Question for us:
Have we heard the most shocking statements,
or is there more shocking to come?

Verse 13: THEN.....

- Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

WHAT?!!!!

King David could be your teacher today? Hopefully he is.

Verse 14 Request:

- Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,

Result:

- and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

Verse 15 Request:

- O Lord, open my lips,

Result:

- and my mouth will declare your praise.

**BUT HERE IS OUR ONE HUNDRED PERCENT,
 ABSOLUTELY TRUE REALITY,
 WE MUST GRASP TODAY**

16 For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;
 you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
 a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

What was the purpose of “sacrifices” in the Old Testament “sacrifices”?

- The biblical idea of sacrifice concerns the way of approach to God, finding acceptance before him by means of an acceptable substitute offered in place of the sinner and bearing the curse of sin. (The Gospel Coalition)

What can we create as New Testament “sacrifices” if we are not careful?

- Any honest thoughts we can share this morning?

What is a “broken heart and spirit”?

- **Surrender to God's Will**

- There are a few key words in this verse. Let's examine what they mean.
 - **Broken** - Comes from the Hebrew word meaning to break or break in pieces.
 - **Contrite** - Comes from the Hebrew word meaning to crush.
 - Feeling or showing sorrow or remorse for improper or objectionable behavior, actions, etc.
 - **Sorrow**: deep distress, sadness, or regret especially for the loss of someone or something loved.
 - **Remorse**: a gnawing distress arising from a sense of guilt for past wrongs.
 - **Heart** – Comes from the Hebrew word meaning inner man, mind, or will.
 - **Spirit** – Comes from the Hebrew word meaning breath or wind.
- Let's put all of these definitions together so we can understand what a contrite heart and spirit really is. **A contrite heart or spirit is when a person's inner man or will has been broken so they no longer run after the things they want, but surrender to the things that God wants. A broken heart or will says I will no longer do this my way or on my terms but I will surrender to your ways. This type of heart, that is fully surrendered to God, he will never turn away.** (Bible Study Tools)

DESPISE:

- And when the Philistine looked and saw David, **he disdained (despised) him**, for he was but a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. (1 Samuel 17: 42)
- As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, and **she despised him in her heart.** (2 Samuel 6: 16)
- Why have **you despised the word of the LORD**, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. (2 Samuel 12: 9)

David tells us in Verse 17, "a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."

- What does the word "despise" mean?
 - to look down on with disrespect or aversion
 - to regard as negligible, worthless, or distasteful

He does not "despise" a broken and contrite heart.

**Is that Good News?
I Hope So.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ and Despise?

- **He was despised** and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53: 3 – 5)
- Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, **despising the shame**, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12: 1 – 2)

**Is that Good News?
I Hope So.**

**Additional Thoughts
for you to consider on your own:**

For Believers and Despise

Matthew 6: 24

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and **despise** the other. You cannot serve God and money.

Romans 14: 10 - 12

10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you **despise** your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; **11** for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

12 So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**Is that Good News?
Is it at least Helpful News for us to Remember?
I Hope So.**