

Psalm 51:1-2

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51:3-6

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Psalm 51:7-9

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean,
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

Psalm 51:10-13

Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.

Psalm 51:13-17

Save me from bloodguilt, O God,
the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.

Psalm 51:18-19

In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
Build up the walls of Jerusalem.
Then there will be righteous sacrifices,
Whole burnt offerings to delight you;
Then bulls will be offered on your altar.

“When our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, said “Repent”, he called for the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.”

- Martin Luther

Psalm 51:1-2 – The Petition

¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
²Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

“Hear gracious God a sinner’s cry,
For I have nowhere else to fly;
My hope, my only hope’s in in Thee;
O God, be merciful to me.”

- Samuel Medley

Psalm 51:3-6 – The Basis

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

⁵Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

⁶Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Psalm 51:1-4

¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

²Wash away all *my iniquity*
and cleanse me from *my sin*.

³For I know *my transgressions*,
and *my sin* is always before me.

⁴Against you, you only, have *I sinned*
and *done* what is *evil* in your sight,

Psalm 51:5, 9, 14

⁵Surely *I was sinful* at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
⁹Hide your face from *my sins*
and blot out all *my iniquity*.
¹⁴Save me from *bloodguilt*, O God,
the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

Psalm 51:3-6 – The Basis

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

⁵Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

⁶Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

“What’s wrong with the world?”

- The Times

“Dear sirs: I am.
Sincerely yours,
G. K. Chesterton.”

Psalm 51:3-6 – The Basis

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and my sin is always before me.

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and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
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sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

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you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

“Such true consciousness of sin contemplates sin, of whatever kind it may be, directly as sin against God, and in its ultimate ground as sin against Him alone; for every relation in which man stands to his fellow-men, and to created things in general, is but the manifest form of his fundamental relationship to God; and sin is “that which is evil in the eyes of God”, it is contradiction to the will of God, the sole and highest Lawgiver and Judge.”

-Kiel and Delitzsch

Psalm 51:3-6 – The Basis

³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

⁴Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

⁵Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

⁶Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

Psalm 51:7-9 – The Confidence

⁷Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean,
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

“What is repentance unto life?

“Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavoring after, new obedience.”

- Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q&A #87

Psalm 51:10-17 – The Endeavor

¹⁰Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

¹¹Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.

¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.

Psalm 51:10-17 – The Endeavor

¹⁴Save me from bloodguilt, O God,
the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

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

“Jesus + Nothing = Everything”

-Tullian Tchividjian

Jesus + Anything = Nothing

Psalm 51:10-17 – The Endeavor

¹⁴Save me from bloodguilt, O God,
the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

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you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

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

Hebrews 10:3-4, 10

³But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins,
⁴because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats
to take away sins.

¹⁰And by that will we have been made holy through the
sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

“Where the spirit has been broken and the heart has become contrite, through a felt sense of the anger of the Lord, a man is brought to genuine fear and self-loathing, with a deep conviction that of himself he can do or deserve nothing, and must be indebted unconditionally for salvation to Divine mercy.”

- John Calvin

Psalm 51:18-19 – Corporate Prayer

¹⁸In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
Build up the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹Then there will be righteous sacrifices,
Whole burnt offerings to delight you;
Then bulls will be offered on your altar.

¹⁵Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst.”

“Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
‘Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will bring me home”

- John Newton

“Religion is the default mode of the human life... even after you are converted by the gospel your heart will go back to operating on other principles unless you deliberately, repeatedly set it to gospel-mode.”

- Tim Keller

“Our whole lives seem to be experiments in learning not to trust our artificial supports. Again and again we have to learn that only the nail-scarred hands of the resurrected Jesus are adequate to hold us up.”

- Dale Ralph Davis