

PSALM 51

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Psalm 51:10-12 (NLT)- Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and make me willing to obey you.

IF THERE WAS EVER A SCRIPTURE THAT WE COULD TRULY RELATE TO DAVID'S HEART CRY, THIS ONE WOULD HAVE TO BE IN THE TOP THREE. THIS SCRIPTURE WAS WRITTEN BY DAVID FROM A PLACE OF SINCERE CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE BECAUSE OF THE SIN HE HAD COMMITTED WITH BATHSHEBA. GOD USED A MAN NAMED NATHAN, TO CONFRONT DAVID ON THE SIN HE HAD COMMITTED A WHILE AFTER IT ALL HAD HAPPENED. DAVID CHOSE TO TURN AWAY AND RUN FROM THIS SIN, WHICH ONLY BROUGHT MORE CONSEQUENCES ALONG THE WAY. HE BECAME CAUGHT UP IN HIS POSITION AND PRIORITIES AS KING AND HE PUSHED THE SIN ASIDE. MAYBE EVEN "FORGOT" ABOUT IT. I'D EVEN GUESS HE GOT TO A PLACE WHERE HE THOUGHT "IT'S BEEN LONG ENOUGH, I DON'T NEED TO DEAL WITH IT NOW". THE DISOBEDIENCE INVOLVED MORE THAN JUST DAVID, SO THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF DAMAGE BECAME EVIDENT. IT WASN'T UNTIL A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP IN DAVID'S LIFE BROUGHT IT UP AGAIN THAT HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE TRANSGRESSION HE HAD MADE AGAINST GOD AND HE KNEW DEEP DOWN HE NEEDED TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT WITH GOD.

WE ARE ALL CALLED TO REPENTANCE. LIVING FOR CHRIST DOESN'T ASSURE THAT WE WILL NEVER MESS UP, SOMETIMES AGAIN AND AGAIN. WHAT IT CAN MEAN, HOWEVER, IS THAT WE CAN BE LIKE DAVID WHO CALLED UPON THE MERCY OF GOD AND BEGAN WALKING AGAIN WITH THE SPIRIT. THERE MAY BE MOMENTS IN OUR LIVES OF DEEP REGRET, AND CHOICES MADE THAT CAN BRING CONSEQUENCES, WHETHER THAT BE SEVERED RELATIONSHIPS, UNINVITED PAIN, LONELINESS, DAYS OF DISCOURAGEMENT OR FEAR BECAUSE OF THE SIN THAT WAS COMMITTED. BUT JUST LIKE DAVID, WHO INITIALLY RAN AND TRIED TO COVER UP THE SIN HE COMMITTED, HE KNEW DEEP DOWN THAT HE NEEDED TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT WITH THE LORD. CREATING IN OURSELVES A CLEAN HEART IS NOT SOMETHING WE CAN DO ON OUR OWN, NOR ARE WE ASKED TO. GOD WILLINGLY INVITES US TO REPENTANCE AND FREEDOM ALWAYS. HE AWAITS A BROKEN AND HEAVY HEART WITH OPEN ARMS. DAVID'S HEART WAS ONE THAT KNEW THAT IN ORDER TO MOVE FORWARD IN HIS LIFE AND CALLING, IT NEEDED TO BE MADE RIGHT WITH GOD. WE TOO CAN ACQUIRE THE SAME KIND OF DESIRE.

GOD CONTINUOUSLY WANTS TO MAKE US CLEAN. HE WANTS TO BRING RENEWAL AND TRANSFORMATION TO OUR HEARTS, EVEN IF WE CHOOSE TO BELIEVE THAT HE WANTS NOTHING TO DO WITH US BECAUSE OF WHAT WE'VE DONE. WHAT A GOD WE SERVE. SIN DOES NOT DISQUALIFY US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD, BUT WE GET TO DECIDE WHAT OUR RESPONSE WILL BE.

THE MORE TIME SPENT GETTING TO KNOW GOD, THE MORE OUR HEARTS WILL DESIRE HOLINESS. EVEN WHEN WE FALL OVER AND OVER, WE CAN STILL CHOOSE TO GRAB HOLD OF THE ONE WHO HAS HELD US ALL ALONG. ASK GOD TODAY TO "CREATE, RENEW, RESTORE, MAKE ME WILLING" IN THE AREAS YOU NEED. HE SURELY WILL MEET YOU IN THAT PLACE.

WHAT IS GOD SPEAKING TO ME TODAY?