

Man After God's Own Heart

David's Life in the Psalms

Lesson 3—David Repents: Psalm 51



Introduction

- ✧ Psalm 51 has been a favorite among famous historical figures on their _____.
- ✧ David wrote this Psalm soon after being confronted about his sin by the prophet Nathan.
- ✧ David's spirit of contrition in this Psalm (verse 17) distinguishes him from King Saul, who admitted fault but did not _____.

David Sins

- ✧ David's chain of sin: listless ⇨ looked ⇨ lingered ⇨ inquired committed adultery ⇨ deceived ⇨ murdered.
- ✧ Sin will take you _____ than you wanted to go, keep you _____ than you wanted to stay, and make you pay more than you wanted to pay.
- ✧ Consequences of David's sin included the death of Bathsheba's baby and disharmony in David's household, leading to incest, violence, and rebellion in the sight of all Israel.
- ✧ Nathan used a story to arouse David's righteous indignation, then applied the story to David's own sin.
- ✧ Nathan said the reason the Lord killed David's son was because David's sin caused the nations to _____.

David Prays for Forgiveness (51:1-9)

- ✧ David begins his prayer by appealing to God's own character and clinging to God's mercy.

- ✧ He shares this quality with _____, who in his petition for Israel constantly reminded God of his own compassion.
- ✧ David repeatedly throws himself upon God's mercy throughout his life, such as the census incident in 2 Sam. 24:10-14.
- ✧ God's lovingkindness is a very rich concept, including the ideas of _____, steadfast devotion, and mercy.
- ✧ An evidence of a man who walks with God is an increasing _____ of his own sinfulness (verse 3).
- ✧ David knew his offense was against the Lord and was open with the Lord about his sin (verse 4).
- ✧ Verses 5 and 6 appear to be opposing realities: David is _____ sinful yet the Lord desires truth in his inner man.
- ✧ David describes God's action toward his sin: blot it out, wash me, purify me, hide your face from my sin, deliver me.

David Prays for a New Heart (51:10-19)

- ✧ David realized he needed more than forgiveness; he needed a clean _____ that would make righteous choices.
- ✧ David's sin led to sorrow, but he asked the Lord to restore his joy.
- ✧ The forgiven sinner can share the message of mercy and forgiveness with those who have yet to _____ it (verse 13).
- ✧ "Although my memory's fading, I remember two things very clearly: I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior." - John Newton

_____, a Man after God's Own Heart

- ✧ How do you respond to the Nathans in your life who point out your sins and shortcomings?
- ✧ Do you excuse your sin or fully admit it to God?
- ✧ How can you pray that God would create a clean heart in you?