



Create a Clean Heart in Me

By Ken Terry on February 26, 2024

TODAY'S READING: Psalm 51

King David is crying out to his God for forgiveness. You see, King David, a man after God's own heart, had committed an egregious sin. David had one of his most trusted soldiers, Uriah the Hittite, placed in harm's way to be killed so David could have Bathsheba, Uriah's wife. Please keep in mind that David had impregnated Bathsheba. Hear the Lord's rebuke through the prophet Nathan, *"Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon. Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife"* (2 Samuel 12:9-10, NKJV).

This reads like an afternoon soap opera! However, these are the ways of man as he allows his flesh to overtake his mind and the things he has learned. In this case it was King David's lust, greed, and misuse of power. It is a great example that any of us can fall prey to temptation as we allow sin to take root in our hearts until it manifests itself in our reality. But we have a God who is bigger than our sin and bigger than any temptation that will prevent itself. Therefore, my friends, if you sin, all is not lost. Do not allow Satan to whisper his condemning words in your ear. Do not allow him to shame you into a self-loathing existence. Know you have a great God and follow David's example, PRAY!! Acknowledge the sin and repent. *"For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight- That You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge"* (Psalm 51:3-4, NKJV).

That is only the start. When we do not follow the Master's plan and veer off the righteous path of Christ Jesus, and sin, we must ask the Father in heaven to cleanse us of all our unrighteousness. *"Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me"* (Psalm 51:10-11, NKJV).

My friends, when you feel your heart tug, that is the Holy Spirit of God acknowledging your efforts, but you are not done. Ask your Heavenly Father to, *"Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You"* (Psalm 51:12-13, NKJV).

Be the example you want others to follow. King David was a fine example for us. I would not recommend that anyone follow his sin and deceit, but that everyone follow David's remorse when he disappointed his Father and the people he served.

PRAYER: Our Father in heaven hallowed be Thy name. Father, thank You for being with us as we studied in Your Word today. Father, thank You for Your love, mercy, and grace. We pray that You will continue to heed our prayers for You to create a clean heart in each and every one of us. Father, please restore the joy of our salvation so that we may become all that we can be in Christ Jesus our Lord.

TOMORROW'S READING: Isaiah 40

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