

Great Differences: Lessons from David & Solomon

This week – We are much encouraged - David repents and is forgiven his terrible sins.

“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.” Psalm 51v17.

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Psalm 51 (David’s prayer of repentance for this sin)	
Monday	2 Samuel 12v1-12 (David is confronted with his sin)	
Tuesday	2 Samuel 12v13-25 (David repents, faces the consequences)	
Wednesday	Isaiah 1v1-18 (Your scarlet sin will be white as snow)	
Thursday	2 Corinthians 5 (Believers are new creatures in Christ)	
Friday	Hebrews 9v1-14 (Christ would fulfil all OT ‘pictures’)	
Saturday	Hebrews 9v15-28 (Christ’s acceptable sacrifice for sin)	

Important Thought for us Today: What is True Repentance? Both the Old and New Testaments refer to **repentance** as a total change of heart, a turning back from the evil way of sin, and put in its place a desire to be holy. Sincere repentance is not a casual ‘sorry’, without any intention to change one’s ways. We must not have an attitude that, as God is kind and forgiving, I can keep sinning, and He will always accept me back without true repentance. The Lord looks for sincerity of heart, a conviction, a real sorrow, and a hatred of sin. Yes, God is loving, and kind, ever ready to forgive **but** we must remember that He is also holy, and His Holy justice must be satisfied. This is why He sent His Son, The Lord Jesus Christ, into the world as a Perfect Man, (Immanuel, God with us), to die on the cross as our substitute, to be punished as if He had committed our sin. We must learn from this that sin is so abhorrent to God that it requires our sincere repentance and faith to obtain His forgiveness.

As faith is the gift of God, we must pray for Him to give us it, so that we can believe and repent properly. Read Ephesians 2v1-8 to gain a clear understanding on this.

Hymn 51v3, Based on Psalm 51 - David seeks and finds the LORD’s forgiveness of his great sin.

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| 1. Look upon me, O Lord, forgive,
Let a repenting sinner live;
By all Thy mercies large and free,
I come, dear Lord, to trust in Thee. | 3. O wash my soul from every sin,
And make my guilty conscience clean;
For on my heart the burden lies,
And my offences pain my eyes. |
| 4. With shame I all my sin confess,
Sins against Law and truth and grace;
And if my soul condemned should be,
That would be just and right for me. | 5. Yet save a worthless sinner, Lord,
For I believe Thy gracious Word,
And trust the words of promise there,
That Thou wilt surely hear my prayer. |

The Difference Repentance Makes.

How to Approach The Lord For Forgiveness.

- **Background to Today’s Lesson – David’s Grievous Sin. 2 Samuel 11.**
 - Laziness, and lust, resulted in David committing the sin of adultery with Bathsheba.
 - David tried to cover up his sin with lies and deceit. But Uriah refused to go home.
 - David arranged for Uriah, Bathsheba’s husband, to be killed in a fierce battle.
 - Nathan confronted David about his sin – *“Thou art the man.” 2 Samuel 12v7.*
We can never hide our sin from the Lord God. He sees all our thoughts, motives and deeds. Are we convicted of our sin, such that we hate it, knowing we should be punished by God for it?
- **Psalm 51 is David’s Personal, and Private, Prayer of Sincere Repentance. We Note:**
 - **The Character of Sin is:** -
 - **Against God**, as well as against people. David knew his sin was evil in God’s sight.
 - **Part of Our Nature.** From a child we show pride, selfishness, greed, bad temper.
 - **Deliberate.** We naturally love and cling to our sin much more than we love God.
Some seek a priest, some a psychiatrist, to get relief from the guilt of sin - but without success. Only God can remove the guilt of our sin and allow us into His Holy Heaven.
 - **The Effects of Sin - David Feared:** -
 - **God would reject him** - he would not be forgiven, but lose his eternal salvation.
 - **God would remove His Holy Spirit** - that he would lose his joy and happiness.
 - **God would not use him anymore** – he would be cut off from the Lord’s service.
All the unhappiness and frustration in the world is because of ours, and others, sin.
 - **The Removal of Sin - David Prayed to God – Blot, Wash, Cleanse, and Purge:** -
 - **v1, ‘Blot out my transgressions’** – the complete removal of the dark stain of sin.
 - **v2, ‘Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity’** – thoroughly wash me, cleanse me.
 - **v2, ‘Cleanse me from my sin’** - removal of sins obnoxious, and putrefying smell.
 - **v7, ‘Purge me with hyssop’** - a herb to totally cleanse from touching dead things.
- **The Conditions of Pardon.**
 - David realised the enormity of his sin; Knowing he fully deserved God’s holy wrath.
 - David was aware that he could not do anything himself to get right with God.
 - He also knew that he could not continue to sin and expect God’s forgiveness.

A Very Costly Sacrifice Is Required – That of God The Son, Jesus Christ, dying on Calvary’s cross. Good deeds, living with best intentions, trying to please God, cannot remove the guilt of our sin. David looked beyond the Old Testament animal sacrifices to his Saviour, Who would die for him.

Let us use David’s prayer in Psalm 51 as a pattern prayer, searching our hearts for all our sins so that we can sincerely repent of them, and receive, in faith, God’s full pardon and forgiveness. We will then join David, and many others, in being Ransomed, Healed, Restored, Forgiven.

Jerimiah wrote, “It is of the LORD’s mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: Great is Thy faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore, will I hope in Him.”
Lamentations 3v22-24.