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# *Church in Campbell Weekly News*

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## **A PERSON REPENTING, CONFESSING HIS SINS TO GOD, AND ASKING GOD FOR HIS PURGING**

In Psalm 51 we have the third category—a person repenting, confessing his sins to God, and asking God for His purging. In the life of each one of us, there needs to be a period of time, perhaps lasting for several days, in which we thoroughly repent, confess our sins to God, and plead with Him to deal with our sins and with our sinful nature. Furthermore, day by day we need to repent and confess.

### **A. David, after Committing His Great Sin and Being Rebuked by the Prophet Nathan**

The title of Psalm 51 is significant: "A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came to him, after he had gone in to Bath-sheba" (2 Sam. 11:1—12:14). This indicates that this psalm was composed after David's great sin in murdering Uriah and robbing him of his wife Bath-sheba and then being rebuked by the prophet Nathan.

### **B. Repenting and Confessing His Sins to God**

In verses 3 through 5 and 17 David repented and confessed his sins to God.

### **C. Begging God**

#### **1. To Blot Out His Transgressions, Wash Him Thoroughly from His Iniquity, Cleanse Him from His Sin, and Purge His Sin with Hyssop**

David begged God to blot out his transgressions, wash him thoroughly from his iniquity, cleanse him from his sin, and purge his sin with hyssop

(vv. 1-2, 7, 9). The verbs used by David—"blot out," "wash," "cleanse," and "purge"—indicate that his repentance and confession were thorough and that his asking for forgiveness was genuine.

In contrast, suppose someone would pray, saying, "God, I know that You are merciful. No matter how many sins I have committed, I know that You will forgive me." This kind of confession does not mean anything. Like David, we need to stay in the presence of God, confessing that we were born in sin and pleading with Him to wash us and cleanse us, to blot out our transgressions, and to purge our sin. To pray in this way

indicates that we have no trust in ourselves. Realizing that we are sinful and that God is holy, we trust only in Him. Also, we realize that we need Christ to be our Mediator and our sacrifice.

In verse 7a David prayed, "Purge my sin with hyssop, and I will be clean." Hyssop typifies Christ in His humble and humiliated human nature (1 Kings 4:33a; Exo. 12:22a). In Psalm 51:7a hyssop implies Christ as the Mediator and the sacrifice.

## **2. To Create in Him a Clean Heart and Renew a Steadfast Spirit within Him**

In verse 10 David prayed, "Create in me a clean heart, O God,/And renew a steadfast spirit within me." The Hebrew word for "clean" here may also be translated "pure." David begged God not only to forgive him and purge him but also to renew him.

By sinning we become old, but after we are forgiven by God we may be renewed. Thus, after we enjoy God's forgiveness, we need to ask Him for His renewing. We need to pray that He will give us a pure heart and a steadfast spirit.

## **3. To Not Cast Him from His Presence and Not Take the Spirit of His Holiness Away from Him**

In verse 11 David continued, "Do not cast me from Your presence,/And do not take the Spirit of Your holiness away from me." We need a new

heart and a steadfast spirit, and we also need God's presence. If we lose God's presence, we lose everything. God's presence is actually the Spirit. When the Spirit is away, God's presence also is gone.

## **4. To Restore to Him the Gladness of His Salvation and Sustain Him with a Willing Spirit**

In verse 8a David prayed, "Let me hear gladness and joy," and in verse 12 he asked, "Restore to me the gladness of Your salvation,/And sustain me with a willing spirit." Here we see a connection between gladness and willingness of spirit. When we are happy, we also have a willing spirit. This is the overcoming life. A defeated person, on the contrary, is unhappy and does not have a willing spirit. If such a defeated one confesses his sin and asks God for His forgiveness, he will have the gladness of God's salvation and will also have a willing spirit. It is by the gladness of God's salvation that a willing spirit is sustained within us.

## **5. To Deliver Him from the Guilt of Bloodshed**

Finally, in verses 14 and 15 David begged God to deliver him from the guilt of bloodshed that his tongue may ring forth His righteousness and his mouth may declare His praise.

## **D. Participating in the Enjoyment of God in His House and in His City through the Offerings on the Altar**

"Do good in Your good pleasure unto Zion;/Build the walls of Jerusalem./Then You will delight in the sacrifices of righteousness,/In burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; /Then they will offer sacrifices of bullocks upon Your altar" (vv. 18-19). This signifies the participation in the enjoyment of God in the local church as God's house and in the church as God's city through the all-inclusive Christ as the offerings. If we are those who repent, confess our sins, and ask God for His purging, we will have the enjoyment of God in Christ in His house, the local church, and in His city, the universal church. This is related to God's favoring of the local churches and the building up of the universal church. May this be our practical experience day by day.

(Life-study of Psalms message 23)

- For gospel preaching on West Valley College campus, as well as for English-speaking testimony in Campbell.

### *Announcement*

- Morning Revival on Psalms Week 9
- YP Bible reading : John chapter 4.
- Prayer meeting 7:30PM on Tuesday (11/15) at Br. Tai's house
- GOW training 11/19 Sat 8:45AM. at SC meeting hall, be on time, with proper dress, prepare for test.
- GOW 5<sup>th</sup> term registration is open, deadline 12/14.
- 11/24-11/27 Thanksgiving Conference at San Jose Convention Center.,
- 11/23 or 24 ~ 27, UC Davis students (~20) will visit and blend with us during the Thanksgiving Conference, and will need us to provide hospitality.
- Sister Lo gave birth to a baby boy, named Benjamin ZiAn C. Lo, on 11/9. Both mother and son are OK.

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### *Burdens for Church Prayers*

- Pray for coming YP conference at Alliance Redwood
- Pray for coming Thanksgiving conference, saints' participation of the conference.
- Pray for the growth of the feeling of the Body of Christ.
- Pray for spreading to nearby cities
- For daily exercise in GOW training: prophesying on Lord's day by daily enjoying His word and pursue the truth and attend Lord's day meeting on time.