

Bible Stories You've Forgotten
PSALM 51 – Healing of Sin (Part 1)
Fairlawn Lutheran Church – Chapel Bible Study
Feb 14, 2021

Prayer & Introductions

1) Review

- a. Arguing about Predestination
- b. Sin of Self-Deceit
- c. Sin as Leaven

2) Background

1. Psalms written and assembled by several authors including King David.
2. Psalms, along with Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, and Job ... considered the "Wisdom" books of the Bible.
3. Hebrew Poetry [R.K. Harrison, p.965ff]: Does not rhyme... "Parallelism".

3) Bible Readings:

Psalm 51 (For the Director of Music. A Psalm of David after the Prophet Nathan came to him)
2 Sam 11:1 thru 12:7 – David and Bathsheba (Play Audio 4:50-8:15)
"Repentance": John the Bapt: Mt 3:1-2; Mk 1:4; Lk 3:2-3; also Pentecost Acts 2:36-38
2 Cor 7:8-10 ... godly sorrow vs worldly sorrow
Matt 15:18-19

4) Contemporary Significance: Tim Keller: *Healing of Sin (Part 1)*

- How should we deal with guilt? This Psalm is one of the best passages about dealing with guilt. It was written by David after the prophet Nathan confronted him about his adultery with Bathsheba. David and Bathsheba – guilt and repentance.
 - "You are the man." We all need Nathans in our life who will confront us about our sin.
 - David blew up his life and was plunged in to the greatest of depths and of hopelessness and despair. How could he go on? How could he rule and be king? He got out and he triumphed because he repented. How? He repented.
 - David blew up his life and yet he triumphed. How?
 - We have to see, confess, mourn and hate our sin. Repentance.
 - Ps 51:4 has all of the elements of repentance: *"Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgement."*
1. See our sin as God sees it [15:10] - "In thy sight" – Educate our conscience with the truth to understand the seriousness of our sin. To see it as God sees it.
 - There is no secular or scientific way deal with guilt. The World says "Follow your heart." – Taco Bell morality ... Every Disney movie ever made. But that's what serial killers do. Jesus says different (Mt 15:18-19). Christian morality comes from God and His Word. Not from inside ourselves or our hearts.
 2. Confess our sin [21:48] - "I have sinned and done what is evil...". We are able to do horrible things because we can find ways of justifying them and avoid responsibility. David says to his General Joab, "the sword devours one as well as another" after the plot that killed Uriah...he could have died anyway. Nathan says "You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites."
 3. Mourn our sin [28:00] – "You and You only have I sinned." I see that ultimately my sin is a sin against God. All sins are a rejection of the goodness of God first (idolatry). The sin underneath every other sin. "Remorse" looks inward ... self-pity...gets you to hate yourself and God vs. "Repentance" ... looks outward to God...gets you to hate your sin (not self).

4. Hate our sin [33:40] – If we repent, we will change and won't care about the consequences. We will hate our sin but not God or ourselves.

Jesus shows us the way to do this ... he didn't seek glory or to elevate himself but stripped himself of his glory, took on human form and went willingly to the cross ... for us. It is through humbling ourselves and following him that we will reach the mountaintop.