

Evening Sermon Outline – February 2, 2020

“To Find Forgiveness...” Psalm 51

Title.—“After he had gone in to Bathsheba.” This was the devil’s nest-egg that caused many sins to be laid, one to, and upon another. See the woeful chain of David’s lust, 2 Samuel 11 and 12.—*John Trapp.*

I. To find forgiveness, focus first on God’s mercy –

**<sup>1</sup>Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies,... Psalm 51:1 A**

1. God’s mercies are multitudinous seek these, praise these

2. Don’t try to make excuses, or plead your sin is small –

**<sup>11</sup>For Your name’s sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great. Psalm 25:11 (NKJV)**

**But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, Romans 5:20 (NKJV)**

*We are not to sin so grace will abound, but where sin does abound, grace abounds much MORE! “grace that is greater than all our sin”*

Verse 1.—“According to the multitude.” Men are greatly terrified at the multitude of their sins, but here is a comfort—our God hath multitude of mercies. If our sins be in number as the hairs of our head, God’s mercies are as the stars of heaven; and as he is an infinite God, so his mercies are infinite; yea, so far are his mercies above our sins, as He Himself is above us poor sinners.—*Archibald Symson.*

II. To find forgiveness, seek freedom and cleansing from sin’s filth –

1. Blotting out –

**Blot out my transgressions. Psalm 51:1**

**And blot out all my iniquities. Psalm 51:9 B**

*Legally removing from God’s record ...*

2. Washing / cleansing –

**<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. Psalm 51:2**

A. Let it be thorough -

B. Know God does the cleaning right –

**<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Psalm 51:7**

Verse 7.—“Purge me with hyssop.” פְּרַח־הִיֶּסּוֹפִים. Properly, *expiate my sin* with hyssop. The Psalmist alludes to the purification from the leprosy (Levit. 14:52), or from the touch of a dead body (Num. 19:19), both of which were to be done by the sprinkling of water and other things with hyssop.—*Samuel Chandler.*

*The spaghetti sauce cat - ... and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. James 1:27 (NKJV)*

III. To find forgiveness, fully and honestly confess your sin –

**<sup>3</sup>For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. Psalm 51:3-6**

1. Finally, David acknowledges his sin, he is found out by God, through Nathan the Prophet-

**To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David When Nathan the Prophet Went to Him, After He Had Gone in to Bathsheba.**

2. His sin was always before David –

*To have our sin ever before us, is throughly to be convinced of it, to be continually troubled in mind about it, to be truly humbled under the sense of it, and to be possessed of those dreads and terrors of conscience which may never let us rest or enjoy any quiet within our own breast till we have reconciled ourselves to a gracious God for it.—*Adam Littleton.**

3. *He acknowledges his sin, it was against God, it was done in God's sight —*

*Verse 4.—“In thy sight.”* David was so bent upon his sin, as that the majesty and presence of God did not awe him at all: this is a great aggravation of sin, and which makes it to be so much the more heinous. For a thief to steal in the very sight of the judge, is the highest piece of impudence that may be; and thus it is for any man to offend in the sight of God and not to be moved with it.—*Thomas Horton. Thee and Thee only ...*

4. *He counts God just when He judges -*

5. *Sin is part of our nature ...*

#### IV. *With forgiveness pray also for —*

1. *Restored joy —*

<sup>8</sup> **Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. Psalm 51:8**

<sup>12</sup> **Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, ... Psalm 51:12 A (NKJV)**

2. *Hiding of God's face —*

<sup>9</sup> **Hide Your face from my sins ... Psalm 51:9 A**

A. *This is an acknowledgement of sin's shame; David's sin were shameful sins!*

B. *This is another way of asking for forgiveness but also it is asking the favor of a friend...*

3. *No rejection —*

**... Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Psalm 51:9**

A. *David probably had Saul in mind —*

<sup>14</sup> **But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him. 1 Samuel 16:14 (NKJV)**

B. *Saul's life went down hill FAST after the Holy Spirit was taken from him! The departure of the Holy Spirit indicates Saul was not a true believer!*

C. *David's sin was at least on par with Saul's, he may be right to doubt his salvation ...*

4. *Heart / spirit recreation —*

<sup>10</sup> **Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Psalm 51:10 (NKJV)**

5. *Upholding by God's Spirit —*

**... And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. Psalm 51:12 B (NKJV)**

6. *Deliverance from blood guilt —*

<sup>14</sup> **Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, ... Psalm 51:14**

7. *Open lips —*

<sup>15</sup> **O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. Psalm 51:15**

#### V. *Note David connected promises to his prayers —*

1. *Promise — he will teach sinners -*

<sup>12</sup> **Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. <sup>13</sup> Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. Psalm 51:12–13 (NKJV)**

2. *Promise — Praise and a broken contrite heart*

<sup>15</sup> **O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. <sup>16</sup> For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. <sup>17</sup> The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise. Psalm 51:15-16**

3. *Promise — the sacrifices and offerings of God's people -*

<sup>18</sup> **Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem.**

<sup>19</sup> **Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar. Psalm 51:18-19**

*Arnold Brevick*