

A CLEAN HEART AND A RIGHT SPIRIT (THE GREAT HEART-SEARCHING)

Psalms 51:10: Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Job 14:4: Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.

Job 25:4: How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?



Proverbs 20:9: Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?

A clean heart and a right spirit, they go together. Sin has no power in a clean heart.

Psalms 51:1-19:

¹ Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

² Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

³ For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified when Thou speakest, and be clear when Thou judgest.



⁵ Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

⁶ Behold, Thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part Thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

⁸ Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice.

⁹ Hide Thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.**
- 11 Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**
- 12 Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.**
- 13 Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.**
- 14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of Thy righteousness.**
- 15 O Lord, open Thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth Thy praise.**
- 16 For Thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: Thou delightest not in Burnt Offering.**
- 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.**
- 18 Do good in Thy good pleasure unto Zion: build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.**
- 19 Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with Burnt Offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.**

Just one sin did the damage to Eve, Adam, and Cain. Abraham lost influence with Abimelech. Moses' act cost him Canaan. Miriam's act caused leprosy. Achan's act cost him and his family their lives. Israel lost the Promised Land because of unbelief. Then there was David's sin:



2 Samuel 12:9-14:

9 Wherefore hast thou despised the Commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? Thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.



10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised Me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

11 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own

house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of

this sun.

12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.

13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

14 Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

QUESTION: Who shall ascend the Hill of the Lord?

Psalms 24:4: He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

What is to be understood by a clean heart? It is a heart that is:

- **cleansed from defilement;**
- **has no rebellion against God and His WORD;**
- **has no known unforgiven, unjudged, or uncleansed sin.**

Psalms 19:12: Who can understand his errors? cleanse Thou me from secret faults.

Secret hidden faults:



When we are clean, that nature — the carnal nature — is exposed to the light. Growth in spirituality exposes motives and desires hitherto buried and unrealized. Self opposes holiness and cannot produce a clean heart; therefore it fights it:

Romans 7:1-25:

1 Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the Law,) how that the Law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?

2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the Law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the Law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that Law; so that she is no adulteress, Though she

be married to another man.

4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the Law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to Him Who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

5 For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the Law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.

6 But now we are delivered from the Law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of Spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

7 What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the Law: for I had not known lust, except the Law had said, thou shalt not covet.

8 But sin, taking occasion by the Commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the Law sin was dead.

9 For I was alive without the Law once: but when the Commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

10 And the Commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death.

11 For sin, taking occasion by the Commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.

12 Wherefore the Law is Holy, and the Commandment Holy, and just, and good.

13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the Commandment might become exceeding sinful.

14 For we know that the Law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the Law that it is good.

17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.



21 I find then a Law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

22 For I delight in the Law of God after the inward man:

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the *mind* I myself serve the Law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Create:

It takes a creative act — a necessary creation by God — to have a Clean Heart:

Psalms 51:1a: Create in me a clean heart, O God;

The old spirit —
our carnal
nature — is
lawless and
rebellious.

When it comes to the suppression of any evil, self-effort breaks down. The old spirit — our carnal nature — is lawless and rebellious:

Ephesians 2:3: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

A Right Spirit only comes with a clean heart. A Right Spirit fights with sin; a Wrong Spirit fights righteousness. God gives a new heart and a new spirit:

Ezekiel 36:26: A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

A Wrong Spirit harbors grudges, is jealous, criticizes, does not forgive, is deceptive, and is hard-hearted. A heart that is not set aright has a spirit that is not steadfast. A Wrong Spirit is moody, huffy, shifty, careless, and living proud:



Psalms 78:8: And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and

rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.

A Right Spirit is tender, broken, humble, loves righteousness and holiness, and craves more purity.

Revival is the outgrowth of this renewal. It produces saints, and begets sons and daughters in the Kingdom. Is this your prayer? If it is, God will quickly answer it.

Leviticus 7:19: And the flesh that toucheth any unclean thing shall not be eaten; it shall be burnt with fire: and as for the flesh, all that be clean shall eat thereof.

2 Kings 5:10-13:

¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

¹¹ But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, he will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the Name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

¹³ And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the Prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?



Luke 4:27: And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the Prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian.

2 Chronicles 30:17: For there were many in the congregation that were not sanctified: therefore the Levites had the charge of the killing of the passovers for every one that was not clean, to sanctify them unto the Lord.

Proverbs 20:9: Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?

Job 14:4: Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.

Job 25:4: How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?

Psalms 73:1: Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart.

Isaiah 1:16: Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

Isaiah 52:11: Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean thing; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord.

Jeremiah 13:27: I have seen thine adulteries, and thy neighings, the lewdness of thy whoredom, and thine abominations on the hills in the fields. Woe unto thee, O Jerusalem! wilt thou not be made clean? when shall it once be?

Ezekiel 36:25-26:

²⁵ Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

Matthew 8:3: And Jesus put forth His hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.



Matthew 23:25-26:

²⁵ Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.

²⁶ Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.

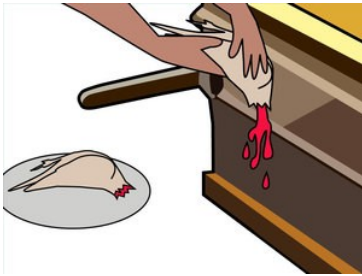
John 13:10: *Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all. For He knew who should betray Him; therefore said He, Ye are not all clean.*

John 15:3: *Now ye are clean through the Word which I have spoken unto you.*

CLEANSE:

Leviticus 16:30: *For on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, to cleanse you, that ye may be clean from all your sins before the Lord.*

Numbers 8:21: *And the Levites were purified, and they washed their clothes; and Aaron offered them as an offering before the Lord; and Aaron made an atonement for them to cleanse them.*



Psalms 119:9: *Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word.*

Jeremiah 33:8: *And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against Me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against Me.*

Joel 3:21: *For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwelleth in Zion.*

Ezekiel 36:25, 33:

25 *Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.*

33 *Thus saith the Lord God; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded.*

Ezekiel 37:23: *Neither shall they defile themselves any more with their idols, nor with their detestable things, nor with any of their transgressions: but I will save them out of all their dwelling*

places, wherein they have sinned, and will cleanse them: so shall they be My people, and I will be their God.

Acts 10:15: And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

Acts 11:9: But the voice answered me again from Heaven, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.



2 Corinthians 7:1: Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Ephesians 5:26: That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word,

James 4:8: Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

1 John 1:7-9:

7 But if we walk in the Light, as He is in the Light, we have fellowship one with another, and the Blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the Truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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