

Psalms 51

Chapter 51 of 150 · 19 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Create in Me a Clean Heart

- 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.
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- 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.
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- 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.

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- 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.
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- 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.
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HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Blood — דָּם (Dam)

Blood

The Hebrew **dam** (דָּם) means blood—representing life itself. 'The life of the flesh is in the blood' (Leviticus 17:11), and blood was required for atonement, foreshadowing Christ's sacrifice.

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Holy — קָדוֹשׁ (Qadosh)

Holy, set apart

The Hebrew **qadosh** (קָדוֹשׁ) means holy or set apart—separated from common use for God's purposes. God is 'the Holy One of Israel,' utterly distinct from creation in moral perfection.

Iniquity — אָוֶן (Avon)

Iniquity, guilt, punishment

The Hebrew **avon** (אָוֶן) encompasses iniquity, guilt, and its punishment—the twisted nature of sin. 'The LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all' (Isaiah 53:6), Christ bearing our guilt and penalty.

Justify — צַדִּיק (Tsadaq)

To be righteous, declare righteous

The Hebrew **tsadaq** (צַדִּיק) means to be righteous or to declare righteous—a legal verdict of innocence. Abraham 'believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness' (Genesis 15:6).

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יהוה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Mercy — רַחֲמִים (Rachamim)

Compassion, mercy

The Hebrew **rachamim** (רַחֲמִים) derives from 'womb' (rechem), suggesting tender, maternal compassion. God's mercies are 'new every morning' (Lamentations 3:23), showing His compassionate nature.

Repent — שׁוּב / נָחַם (Shuv / Nacham)

To turn back, relent

The Hebrew **shuv** (שׁוּב) means to turn or return—a physical turning that represents spiritual redirection back to God. **Nacham** (נָחַם) conveys grief or relenting, often used of God 'repenting' of judgment.

Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root tzedek (צֶדֶק), meaning righteousness or justice.

Sacrifice — זֶבַח (Zevach)

Sacrifice, offering

The Hebrew **zevach** (זֶבַח) denotes a sacrifice or offering—an animal slaughtered for worship. Old Testament sacrifices foreshadowed Christ, 'the Lamb of God' (John 1:29).

Sin — חַטָּאת (Chatta'ah)

Sin, missing the mark

The Hebrew **chatta'ah** (חַטָּאת) means sin—missing the mark of God's standard. It encompasses rebellion, transgression, and falling short of divine holiness.

Spirit — רוּחַ (Ruach)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Hebrew **ruach** (רוּחַ) means spirit, wind, or breath—invisible but powerful. It describes both the Holy Spirit and the human spirit. God's Spirit gives life and empowers His people.

Transgression — פְּשָׁע (Pesha)

Transgression, rebellion

The Hebrew **pesha** (פְּשָׁע) means transgression or rebellion—willful violation of God's law. It implies deliberate revolt against divine authority: 'he was wounded for our transgressions' (Isaiah 53:5).

Truth — אמת (Emet)

Truth, faithfulness

The Hebrew **emet** (אמת) means truth or faithfulness—reliability and conformity to reality. God is true (emet), utterly faithful to His word and character.

CROSS REFERENCES

Psalms 51:1

Sin: Psalms 51:9; Isaiah 43:25; 44:22; Acts 3:19. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 69:16; 106:45; Lamentations 3:32; Colossians 2:14. **Grace:** Psalms 4:1; 119:124

Psalms 51:2 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 51:7; Isaiah 1:16; Jeremiah 4:14; Ezekiel 36:25; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Revelation 7:14. **Sin:** Acts 22:16; Revelation 1:5

Psalms 51:3

Sin: Psalms 32:5; 38:18; Job 33:27; Proverbs 28:13; Isaiah 59:12; Jeremiah 3:25. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 40:12

Psalms 51:4 **Sin:** Genesis 20:6; 39:9; Luke 15:21. **Righteousness:** Psalms 50:6; Acts 17:31; Romans 2:5; 3:4; Revelation 16:5. **Judgment:** Psalms 50:4. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 9:6

Psalms 51:5

Sin: Romans 5:12. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 58:3; Genesis 5:3; 8:21; Job 14:4; John 3:6; Ephesians 2:3

Psalms 51:6 **Truth:** Psalms 15:2. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 5:9; 1 Samuel 16:7; 1 Chronicles 29:17; Job 38:36; Proverbs 2:6; Luke 11:39; Romans 7:22; James 4:8; 1 Peter 3:4

Psalms 51:7

Parallel theme: Exodus 12:22; Isaiah 1:18; Hebrews 9:19; 1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5

Psalms 51:8 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 13:5; 30:11; 35:10; 38:3; Isaiah 35:10; Matthew 5:4; Luke 4:18

Psalms 51:9

Sin: Psalms 51:1; Isaiah 38:17; Jeremiah 16:17. **Parallel theme:** Colossians 2:14

Psalms 51:10

Spirit: Ezekiel 11:19; 18:31; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:22. **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 32:39; Acts 15:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17. **References God:** Matthew 5:8; Romans 12:2. **Creation:** Proverbs 20:9

Psalms 51:11 **Holy:** Luke 11:13; John 14:26; Ephesians 4:30. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 71:18; Judges 16:20; 2 Kings 13:23. **Spirit:** Genesis 6:3; 1 Samuel 10:10; 16:14; Romans 8:9

Psalms 51:12 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 119:133; Isaiah 41:10; Jude 1:24. **Salvation:** Psalms 13:5; 35:9; Isaiah 61:10; Luke 1:47; 1 Peter 1:5. **Spirit:** Romans 8:15; 2 Corinthians 3:17

Psalms 51:13 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 19:7; 22:27; Isaiah 2:3; 6:10; Jeremiah 31:18; Luke 22:32; Acts 15:3. **Sin:** Psalms 25:8; 32:5; Acts 3:19

Psalms 51:14 **Parallel theme:** 2 Samuel 12:9. **Righteousness:** Psalms 35:28; Romans 10:3. **Sin:** Psalms 26:9. **Blood:** Hosea 4:2

Psalms 51:15 **Resurrection:** Psalms 9:14; Hebrews 13:15. **References Lord:** Exodus 4:11; Ezekiel 3:27; 16:63; 29:21. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 119:13; 1 Samuel 2:9; Matthew 22:12; Mark 7:34

Psalms 51:16

Sacrifice: Psalms 40:6; 50:8; 1 Samuel 15:22; Proverbs 15:8; 21:27; Hosea 6:6. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 51:6; Jeremiah 7:27

Psalms 51:17 **Spirit:** Psalms 34:18; Isaiah 66:2; Matthew 5:3; 1 Peter 2:5. **References God:** Luke 15:10. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 102:17; 147:3. **Sacrifice:** Psalms 107:22; Mark 12:33; Hebrews 13:16

Psalms 51:18 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 25:22; 102:16. **Good:** Luke 12:32; Ephesians 1:5; Philippians 2:13; 2 Thessalonians 1:11

Psalms 51:19 **Righteousness:** Psalms 4:5; Malachi 3:3. **Sacrifice:** Psalms 118:27; Romans 12:1; Ephesians 5:2

