

# Psalms 51:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

## Analysis

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The prayer for divine amnesia: 'Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.' David asks God to look away from his sins and to erase them from the record. 'Blot out' uses the imagery of wiping a slate clean or deleting a written record. Complete removal, not merely overlooking.

## Historical Context

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Ancient records were kept on clay tablets or papyrus; 'blotting out' meant erasing or destroying the record. David asks for his sins to be removed from God's book of remembrance.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. What is the difference between God 'hiding His face from sins' and ignoring sin?
2. How does Christ's work 'blot out' our transgressions completely?

## Interlinear Text

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הִסְתֵּי ר	פָּ נִיבִי	יִמְחָצֵא י	וְכָל	עוֹ נִתִּי	מִחָה:
Hide	thy face	from my sins	H3605	all mine iniquities	and blot out
H5641	H6440	H2399		H5771	H4229

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 16:17** (Sin): For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes.

**Isaiah 38:17** (Sin): Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

**Colossians 2:14** (Parallel theme): Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

**Psalms 51:1** (Sin): Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.