

David promises to (18) \_\_\_\_\_ rather than produce wickedness – v. 14-15

David shows a picture of a (19) \_\_\_\_\_ heart rather than an attempt at woeful religion – v. 16-17

**REMEMBER:** Saul's feeble attempt at religion when he failed God?

*I Samuel 15:19-22—“ Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?”*

*20 And Saul said to Samuel, “But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. 21 But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.”*  
22 So Samuel said:

*“Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams.”*

**FINALLY:** David had clearly heard (20) \_\_\_\_\_ words to him.

*II Samuel 12:14—“...by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme...”*

David prays for God's spiritual (21) \_\_\_\_\_ of all of those he has endangered with his poor spiritual judgment – v. 18-19



Today's message will be available online at [www.ffc.org](http://www.ffc.org), both to view as an archived message and to download from a podcast. To purchase today's message on CD for \$5 or on DVD for \$10, please stop by the First Family Inspiration Book and Gift Store located in the Grand Foyer.

*19-wounded 20-Nathan's 21-protection witness 18-worship*

*Answers: 1-true 2-Begging 3-actions 4-7 5-facts 6-excuses 7-sin 8-overcome 9-God 10-Asking 11-confession 12-close 13-downfall 14-remember 15-renewal 16-Commit 17-*

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***“Forgiveness: Learning how to Request and Accept God's Forgiveness!”***

A verse by verse study of David's "Psalms of Confession"  
Sunday Evening, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Message #6: “How to Ask For God's Forgiveness When Sin Has Ruined the Lives of Others”**

*Psalm 51*

***“This Psalm is the brightest gem in the whole book, and contains instruction so large, and doctrine so precious, that the tongue of angels could not do justice to the full development.”***

*Charles Spurgeon, The Treasury of David: Volume I (Peabody, Ma: Hendrickson), 408. Victorinus Strigelius, 1524-1569.*

***“This is the most deeply affecting of all the Psalms, and I am sure the one most applicable to me. What a mine of rich matter and expression for prayer!”***

*Charles Spurgeon, The Treasury of David: Volume I (Peabody, Ma: Hendrickson), 408. Thomas Chalmers*

***“All evangelical churches are familiar with the 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm. Martin Luther says, ‘There is no other Psalm which is oftener sung or prayed in the church.’ This is the first Psalm in which we have the word ‘Spirit’ used in application to the Holy Ghost.”***

*Charles Spurgeon, The Treasury of David: Volume I (Peabody, Ma: Hendrickson), 408. William S. Plumer*

David's reaction to his (1) \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual condition results in three specific “prayer agendas”.

**Agenda #1:** (2) \_\_\_\_\_ for Forgiveness – v. 1-9

David begins his prayer to God leaning on God's attributes, not his own (3)\_\_\_\_\_.

David specifically asks for some type of forgiveness no less than (4)\_\_\_\_\_ times in the first 9 verses!

#1: Blot out my transgressions – v. 1b

#2: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity – v. 2a

#3: Cleanse me from my sin – v. 2b

#4: Purge me with hyssop – v. 7a

#5: Wash me – v. 7b

#6: Hide your face from my sins – v. 9a

#7: Blot out all my iniquities – v. 9b

NOTICE: David acknowledged (5)\_\_\_\_\_ without offering (6)\_\_\_\_\_ – v. 3-6

FACT: I was born with a (7)\_\_\_\_\_ nature. – v. 5

FACT: You desire for me to (8)\_\_\_\_\_ my sin-nature and you help me do it – v. 6

FACT: My greatest offense is toward (9)\_\_\_\_\_, and others are secondary – v. 4

**Agenda #2**: (10)\_\_\_\_\_ for Restoration – v. 10-12

These 3 verses set this Psalm apart from the other “psalms of (11)\_\_\_\_\_”.

### WHY FORGIVENESS:

David's first priority in asking for forgiveness is so that he would be (12)\_\_\_\_\_ to God again!

Surely verses 10-12 illustrate David's understanding of King Saul's (13)\_\_\_\_\_.

“Create in me a clean heart” –

*I Samuel 10:6-7; 9-10—“Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. 7 And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you...So it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, that God gave him another heart; and all those signs came to*

*pass that day. 10 When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him...”*

“renew a steadfast spirit within me” –

*I Samuel 13:14—“The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.”*

*I Samuel 16:7—“ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”*

“Do not cast me away from your presence” –

*I Samuel 15:35—“And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.”*

“Do not take your Holy Spirit from me” –

*I Samuel 16:14—“But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him.”*

*I Samuel 28:6—“And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets.”*

*I Samuel 28:15—“ Now Samuel said to Saul, “Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?”*

*And Saul answered, “I am deeply distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer me anymore, neither by prophets nor by dreams.”*

The greatest prayer any Christian can pray at any (moment) is in verse 12.

“Restore to me the joy of Your salvation” –

**QUESTION**: Can you (14)\_\_\_\_\_ your spiritual excitement and passion when you first became a Christian?

David desired more than forgiveness – he desired total (15)\_\_\_\_\_.

**Agenda #3**: (16)\_\_\_\_\_ to a Changed Life – v. 13-19

David promises to be a (17)\_\_\_\_\_ for God rather than an obstacle to God – v. 13