

The Process of Repentance

Psalm 51 is a great guideline to show how thorough repentance should be.

Let's start by asking a question...What really is repentance? Is it asking for forgiveness? Or saying you are sorry? Let's see what the Bible has to say:

Verse 1 **What is God's Mercy? (*Lamentation 3:22-23*)**

“have mercy” (2603)- grant favor, to bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior.

“lovingkindness” (2617)- piety, reproof, beauty, good deeds, mercy/kindness.

“tender mercy” (7356)- compassion, to love.

Verse 2 **How thorough is the necessary cleansing?**

“wash” (3526)- trample, stamping with the feet, as a fuller (washer).

Verse 3 **Recognize sin for what it is. (Miss the mark and original and original intention)**

“acknowledge” (3045)- to know, observe with care, have understanding.

Verse 4 **Who is our sin really against? (10 Commandments for us or God?)**

“mightest be justified” (6633)- be right, cleanse, clear, turn to righteousness.

Verse 5 **Original sin caused a defect in the pottery vessel of our lives.**

“was shapen” (2342)- bent, twist or whirl, dance, make. (Fallen nature/ Adam)

Verse 6 **God's desire. What's the difference between inside cleansing and outside cleansing?**

“inward”- inside.

Verse 7 **Whiter than white (*Isaiah 1:18*)**

“purge” (2398)- bear the blame, cleanse, purify, make reconciliation.

“shall be clean” (2891)- to be bright, unadulterated, uncontaminated, holy.

Verse 8 **Cause me to hear the voice of restoration and forgiveness. That which is broken can rejoice.**

“make to hear” (8085)- hear intelligently, with attention and obedience, perceive, call, discern.

Verse 9 **Blot out. (Hide- the God that sees all chooses to look away)**

“sins” (2399)- a crime, fault, offence.

“iniquities” (5771)- perversity, moral evil, mischief.

Verse 10 **Create and Renew.**

“create” (1754)- entirely new production. Only God can make something out of nothing. (*Like Genesis 1!*)

“clean” (2889)- pure- in all senses, moral and physical.

“right” (3559)- be erect, set up, establish, appoint, ordain, make right and ready.

“within” (7130)- the center, the nearest part

Verse 11 **Accepted David vs. Rejected King Saul. (Holy Spirit- set apart and sealed).**

“cast”- throw aside, reject. (Throw out the trash!)

“take not”- remove for good.

Verse 12 **Salvation's joy. First love. (*Revelation 2:4 and James 5:20*)**

“restore” (7725)- to turn back, return to starting point, recall, rescue. Restoration is good; Restored better than original condition!

Verse 13 **The Purpose. The Great Commission- Go and make disciples. (*Matthew 28:18-20*)**

“shall be converted” (7725)- relieve, retrieve, fetch home again.

Verse 14 **The God of OUR salvation! (To Know for ourselves). The consequences of our actions.**

“deliver” (5337)- to snatch away, to be drawn out, to be saved and freed, to escape, to strip off, to put off (like a garment).

Verse 15 **A Heart of Praise. (*Matthew 12:34 and John 4:24*)**

“shall show forth” (5046)- stand boldly out opposite, manifest; Go and tell it on the mountain!

Verse 16 **God's desire. (More than tradition) (*1 Samuel 15:22*)**

“delight” (7521)- to be pleased with, to satisfy, approve, set affection, enjoy.

Verse 17 **What is an acceptable sacrifice? (*Romans 12:1*)**

“broken” (7665)- burst, crush, bring to birth, hurt.

“contrite” (1794)- to collapse. (Fall upon the rock; the Lord).

Verse 18 **Nehemiah's walls were built with the burned-out stones. (*Nehemiah 4:2*)**

“do good” (3910)- make well, happy, beautiful, successful, find favor.

“good pleasure” (7522)- delight, acceptable, desire.

Verse 19 **The altar. Like Abraham. (*Genesis 22*).**

“altar” (4196)- the place of sacrifice.

Psalm 51

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.