

The Great Prerequisite, Purpose, and Pleasure of a New Heart

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How and why does a sinner get a new heart? Pastor leads his family in today's "Hopewell @Home" passage. Psalm 51:9–19 looks forward to the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these eleven verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that the prerequisite of a new heart is to be chosen in our atoning Christ, the purpose of a new heart is to praise God, and the pleasure of a new heart is God to get all His praise from all His people whom He redeems.

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 ▫ Read Psalm 51:9–19

Questions from the Scripture text: What does David need before he can have cleansing (v9)? What will David need once his sin is both forgiven and wiped out (v10)? From where will this clean heart and steadfast spirit come (v11)? What else does His presence bring (v12)? And what will David do in response to this joy (v13)? How does he summarize his request in v14? How will he respond (v14c–v15)? What can't obtain this deliverance (v16)? But what are the necessary circumstantial conditions which please God (v17)? For whom else does David hope this same forgiveness, cleansing, and new heart/joy (v18a)? With what result (v18b–19)?

How and why does a sinner get a new heart? Psalm 51:9–19 looks forward to the opening portion of morning public worship on the coming Lord's Day. In these eleven verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that the prerequisite of a new heart is to be chosen in our atoning Christ, the purpose of a new heart is to praise God, and the pleasure of a new heart is God to get all His praise from all His people whom He redeems.

As we saw in the first half of the Psalm, sinners sin because they have been sinners to the core from when they came into this world. We need desperately to be remade from the inside out (v10). Just for continuing to exist, we require the presence of God and the work of the Holy Spirit (v11).

But before we can be cleansed, we must be forgiven. Sinners don't deserve to be cleansed. As long as they have iniquity and guilt, the justice of God refuses to give us His life. And without His life, we cannot even begin to be cleansed. So David cries out in v9, "Hide your face from my sins, and blot out my iniquities," and in v14, "Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God."

But we need to be cleansed not just so that we can start fresh, but so that we can fulfill our purpose: the praise and enjoyment of God. We need this clean heart and new, steadfast spirit so that we may sing aloud of God's righteousness (v14c), and praise Him (v15b) with the lips that He Himself has opened (v15a). We need this clean heart and new, steadfast spirit so that we may rejoice with the joy of His salvation (v12a).

Ultimately, it's not our sacrifices that God wants (v16). In the last four verses of the Psalm, David is responding to the goodness of God in having forgiven him and cleansed him. How greatly he wishes to honor and thank God! But what do you give to the God Who has everything? Answer: whatever He wants. And what He wants is the humble, grateful hearts of redeemed sinners. A broken spirit (v17a), a broken and a contrite heart (v17b)—God doesn't actually need these things, but He is pleased to receive them. This, He does not despise (v17c).

As David offers his heart to his merciful, forgiving God, he also expresses his desire for the good of God's people. God is glorified in His church, His Zion, His Jerusalem (v18). And David's desire is that they would be prospered in order to keep conducting that public worship (v19) in which God's Name is praised by a great assembly of those who bring the sort of heart described in v17.

Come to God for forgiveness. So that you may be forgiven and cleansed. In order that your mouth may be opened with praise, and your heart filled with joy. As you join in worship with a multitude of others who have been saved by the same mercy!

What should you want to give God? What must happen before you can do so? With whom will you respond?

Sample prayer: Lord, thank You for blotting out our iniquities and delivering us from our guilt. Now, create in us clean hearts, restore to us the joy of our salvation, and open our lips so that our mouths may show forth Your praise! Receive our humble, thankful hearts. And delight in the corporate praise of this assembly of those whom You have thus redeemed in Jesus Christ, AMEN!

Suggested songs: ARP51B "From My Sins, O Hide Your Face" or TPH51C "God, Be Merciful to Me"

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

Psalm 51 verse 9 through 19. These are God's words. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities create in me.

A clean. Heart. O God and renew a right spirit. Sorry, renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence and do not. Take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me by your generous spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways and sinners shall be converted to you deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed O God, the God of my salvation.

And my tongue shall sing aloud of your righteousness. Oh Lord. Open my lips and my mouth shall sew forth. Your praise for you do not desire sacrifice or else. I would give it. You do not delight and burnt offering the sacrifices of God or a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart.

These o God you will not despise do good in your good pleasure to Zion build the walls of Jerusalem. Then you shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness with burnt offering and whole burnt offering then they shall offer bulls on your altar.

So far the reading of God's inspired inerrant word Last week in the first eight verses of the Psalm, we were reminded that the reason we are sinners. The reason we have guilt of which we need to be forgiven and remaining sinfulness from which we need to be delivered, and of which we need to be cleansed is because we came into this world as sinners to the core from the moment of our conception, which is a great proof.

Remember that a man is a man or a boy or a girl is a human. At the moment, they are conceived because their sinners already at that moment. And so we desperately need this new heart that God requires. And in order to have that new heart, God has to create one for us, Verse 10, create and me a clean heart.

He uses there are many words that you can use and the most commonly used word for create is a word. That means make and then after that a word, that means fashion. And one of the lesser common words that is used for create in the Old Testament is barah, which some of you when we had our Hebrew class.

Maybe remember, Breshit bara Elohim. It Hassimayam Veterritz bara being to create out of nothing. The kind of creation that God does in Genesis 1:1. So we don't have a mostly messed up, but able to be renovated, heart for God to work with, we need him to borrow to create from nothing, a clean heart for us.

The problem is we don't deserve it. And so before we can be given a new heart, we need atonement for our sins. So he says, hide your face from my sins. Blot out all my iniquities create in me. A clean. Heart O. God. It was necessary that God would decree the righteousness and sacrifice of Jesus.

As the god man, that the Son would bear, our sins upon himself in order for him to give anyone whom he was saving ever, a clean heart, a new heart. And we see part of, we see this truth partly also in verse 18, when he's when David has completed the part of the prayer that is especially individual and personal private between himself and God.

He then comes in verse 18 and he asks God to do the same with all of his elect with all of his people do good in your good. Pleasure to Zion. You see how he grounds the hope or the cause or the the reason for the good that God does not in something redeemable or offered from the man, that is good but because God is good and he's pleased to make full atonement for men, so that he God and His goodness can give us a new heart.

We need clean hearts from God and therefore, we need forgiveness and how much David needed this forgiveness. He would cry out in verse 14, of our passage deliver me from the guilt of blood shadow. God, he was a murderer and he had murdered to cover up. Adultery. How great was his guilt.

Now, great was his need for a new heart. How could he receive forgiveness? How could he receive new heart? Because the God, who was his Savior, the greater than his guiltiness, greater than his sinfulness, even someone who committed the sexual sin of adultery and covered it up with a murder because of the greatness of God's determination to save His good pleasure from verse 18.

The greatness of God being the personal Savior, and the greatness of His power. To save the God of my salvation 14, the greatness of God's forgiveness. And the means by which he has made that gift. Forgiveness, the atonement of Christ, hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities verse 9.

Praise God. For how all of the greatness of the salvation that we need from him is in him himself, and none of it comes from us. In fact, we need him to create for us, fresh a new heart, but this new heart is created for us, not just so that we can have a fresh start, but so that we can fulfill the purpose for which we are originally created.

And then from which we fell, you remember, when we were thinking about bearing, God's name waitily upon us in the evening, sermon. Yesterday, we remembered the great weightiness of God's name on Adam and Eve being the ones who are made in his image. The ones who are little pictures of God to the rest of the creation and how we all sinned, and in Adam and fell in Adam, when he wanted his purpose to be to glorify himself and to enjoy himself forever.

He especially enjoyed. I think that lie of the devil when he said you shall become like God. And so, we have sinned in Adam and fell in Adam from the purpose of praising God. And so, when the David here in Psalm, 51 is asking God to do a new work of creation.

Create in me. A heart that isn't like the heart of Adam. The one that sinned in and fell in and died in Adam, creating me a heart. That's like the heart of Jesus in our redemption. God does a new work of creation to fulfill the same purposes as the original work?

That we would praise him that we would glorify Him that we would enjoy him. And so he says, Then I will teach transgressors your ways and sinners shall be converted to you. So if God does this new creation work, giving him a new heart, the Holy Spirit giving him the joy by saving him.

The the true joy of knowing God and glorifying God and enjoying God. This generosity of the Spirit in verse 12, right? God isn't being selfish, although there's nothing wrong with God, being doing everything for himself. He's God, everything is from him and through him into him but God doesn't being selfish.

When he gives us His Spirit to create a new heart in us that says, I enjoy God, more than anything else. God doesn't mean selfish. He's being generous because that is the greatest joy and it's object has an infinite capacity to satisfy. And so he says, if you do this Lord, the my the way I will respond to this work, the reason I need you to do this work in me and just so I can have a fresh start.

But so that I can fulfill that original purpose for which I was created, so that I can fulfill that purpose for which I was redeemed. Verse 13, I will teach

transgressors. Your ways. Sinners shall be converted to you. You'll be glorified not only as the creator. But now, the Redeemer and then verse 14, my tongue shall sing a loud of your righteousness O Lord.

Open my lips and my mouth shall show forth. Your praise. So, If you are a believer in Jesus, the reason he saved you is to give you the joy and the dignity and the fulfillment of someone who praises God to himself, and praises God to others and is used by him to bring others even more, and more into the praise of God.

And so now, he's thinking about the worship service, right? The worship service is where we especially do verse 13. I will teach transgressors your ways and verse 14. I was my tongue shall sing aloud of your righteousness, and verse 15. My mouth shall show forth your praise and he thinks about the worship service.

And he says, what God wants in the worship service is not so much. The, the sacrifice, the bulls that he talks about, in the burnt offering and the hole burnt offering in verse 19, He wants our hearts, he wants our hearts saying, there was nothing. Good in me at all.

It was all from God. All from grace Even though the bulls that we bring and slaughter and the lands and we cut their throats in the blood pours out, and we catch it in the bowl and we splatter it on stuff. God doesn't like all that gross stuff. It's a display to us of his own son and Jesus's infinite righteousness and infinitely valuable sacrifice.

And when we come with those things, David says what we're coming with is really saying, Bulls, can't do it and don't do it and not even anything in myself. Can do it. Welcome to God. I don't come saying here, God, here's some good stuff from me for you or hear God.

There's some good stuff in me for you except that God gives you a new heart. And so you say, hear God, Here's some good stuff from you. In me for you and he sees that broken heart and the contrite spirit, Then he is pleased with it. The broken heart in the country spirit, of course, don't decide how to worship So it's not it's not the burnt offering.

That is so pleasing in David of course having realized the greatness of this. He is eager for the worship. Assembly to come and to be those who are not here to offer the animal carcass, that's getting burnt up on the altar. But who because God has given this animal carcass as mechanism as the action through which gathered people who realize that they have nothing in themselves from themselves, but sinfulness and that God has all goodness in himself, and that the God, who has that goodness in himself has been pleased to save sinners both.

So that they're guilt can be wiped out and that they can have a new heart and that they can fulfill their purpose of delighting in Him of having that infinitely greater joy than could ever be had in a creature. Because it's in the Creator, the Redeemer the God of their salvation David realizes.

This is so much bigger than me, I desire for God to get glory, not just from my lip but I desire for God to get all of the glory that He has designed for himself to get. And to give all of the joy to all of the people that He has designed to save and to whom he has determined to give that joy.

And so it goes from the very individual and personal offering to God your your broken spirit and you're sorry heart and I hope you have that individual and personal experience with God frequently in your life and especially in the Lord's day assembly. But it goes from that. Very individual and personal in verse 17 to very suddenly in verses 18 and 19 that corporate and massive and eternal, and heaven and earth and Zion.

Now, being When Jerusalem now being not just a city on a good sized hill in Palestine, but being representative of all whom the Lord would ever save and that new heavens and the new earth in which righteousness would dwell and where the knowledge of God covers the earth as water covers the sea pop quizzes.

Ezekiel, How much of the sea is covered by water? All of it, right? So, stupid enough question that or an obvious enough question that it almost isn't you think it must be a trick, All of it is covered. So, David desires at the end of this on, we should desire.

When we come to him with that broken heart and that sorry spirit. And we realize how completely we're forgiven and how then every good impulse that's in us has been given as a gift from him. And, and all and all that he has done for us. We want him to get all the glory that is due to him.

And we want all of His generous, the desires and determinations plan of salvation to be fulfilled. And so we love the corporate worship. We love the gathering of the assemblies. On the Lord's Day, all these people who know this gospel, honoring the God, who saved them, and receiving His working, in them, even in the midst of the assembly.

And we look forward to that great assembly on the last day. Amen, let's pray.

Thank you, Father, for bringing us back round in your providence to this passage again, One of the places where we can see so clearly, and so powerfully, how great a Savior you are? How great is the salvation You have given us? And how great is the purpose for which we have been saved to bring you honor and glory and praise forever.

We pray that you would increase our faith that you would assure us of our forgiveness and our peace with you. And your love for us that you would grow us and grace in delighting in you by the work of your Holy Spirit and then desiring that you would be honored and praised and that all for whom you have determined to do this.

That all of them would be brought in that. All of us would be sanctified and glorified until with perfected, souls and resurrected. Glorious bodies. We worship and serve you to unending ages. Let me ask it all in Jesus name. Amen.