

## Psalm 51

### *I confess my sin to You privately*

<sup>1</sup> Dear LORD,

I admit that I have sinned and committed a terrible sin by engaging in adultery with Bathsheba and murdering her husband, Uriah. I am so sorry, and I want so much to be right with You again. So please have pity upon me. As an expression of the immeasurable greatness of Your tender love and kindness, I beg You to erase every remembrance of my rebellion from the book in which You recorded my sins the instant I committed them. I ask this because I know that You have a deep concern for those who are hurting accompanied by a strong desire to come to my aid<sup>1</sup>. Please show that same compassion toward me by cleansing me of those terrible sins. <sup>2</sup> Wash me through and through until I am pure, until both the guilt and the punishment that my sins deserve have been completely removed from Your sight. <sup>3</sup> LORD, I admit that I have rebelled against You, and I am overcome with guilt day and night. I now know that what I did was wrong, yet I still believe that You will hear and answer my prayer.

<sup>4</sup> I now see that although the sinful things I did were done **with and to others**, they were done **against You alone** and no one else. By committing them, I have displeased You and have set in motion consequences that will affect not only me but others for years to come. You saw me commit both of those acts. Therefore, when You confront me with the charges and judge me by administering the sentence I rightfully deserve, You will be completely blameless in doing so. It is obvious that You are the best One to judge me because You are pure and holy while I am a sinful man. <sup>5</sup> As for me, my mother conceived me in sin, she carried me in sin, and she bore me into this world as a sinner. <sup>6</sup> Yet, although I am a sinner by nature and prone to do wrong, You take great pleasure in me when my whole inner being is controlled by the truth. I know that this is what You want from me. As I walk through life seeking new truth from Your Word and practicing the truth I already know, I am confident that You will give me the wisdom and prudence to conduct my life in such a good and godly manner that even my secret thoughts and desires will be pleasing to You.

### *Make me clean personally*

<sup>7</sup> Since I stand guilty before You, administer whatever form of discipline You feel is necessary in order to purify my heart and mind so that I will be clean before You on the inside. Then wash me thoroughly with the water of the Word so that when others look at me on the outside they will be able to tell that I have been made clean on the inside. <sup>8</sup> Change me so that I may experience the same kind of joy and happiness I had before I committed those terrible sins. Then too, since my body has been bruised, battered, and worn down by the weight of the guilt of my sin, heal my body so that I can once again rejoice in the goodness of the LORD. <sup>9</sup> I implore You to completely erase my offense from Your memory so that when You look at me You will not see my sin but will see me as completely blameless through Christ's righteousness. <sup>10</sup> Shape my whole inner being so that it becomes pure and clean, and give me a heart like the one I had before I committed those devastating sins — a heart that is totally dedicated to obeying You in everything. <sup>11</sup> Oh LORD, do not ban me from

coming into Your presence, and do not take away the abiding of Your Holy Spirit because I really need His presence and power. <sup>12</sup> Please give the joy of my salvation back to me, and make my heart into one that is not only willing to obey You, but also willing to work hard at avoiding every sinful practice. <sup>13</sup> When You do, I will witness to sinners and teach them how to live according to Your Word. As a result, many sinners will come to know Jesus Christ, the Messiah,<sup>1</sup> as their own personal Savior and LORD.

### ***Make me clean publicly***

<sup>14</sup> My LORD and my God, I made such a mess of my life when I murdered that innocent man, Uriah. Please reach down and rescue me from the heavy load of guilt I inherited when I committed such an evil act. When You do so, I will shout for joy and tell everyone that Jesus Christ graciously forgave me instead of giving me the justice I rightfully deserved. <sup>15</sup> LORD Jesus, give me words to say in praise and adoration to You for Your great love and tender mercy, and I will tell everyone who will listen. <sup>16</sup> I know that You are not pleased with anything I would try to do to appease You or else I would do it immediately. You are not pleased with anything I would give up for You either. <sup>17</sup> LORD, my heart is broken over what I did wrong, and I know that this kind of repentant heart is the only sacrifice You will gladly accept.

<sup>18</sup> Please show Your favor upon those who have trusted Jesus Christ as their personal LORD and Savior, and do good things to and for them. In the process, cause the whole body of believers to grow strong. <sup>19</sup> When You do so, You will find great delight in the righteous and godly manner of living Your people will practice as a sacrifice to You. Then, as they see that they are blessing You, they will offer even more sacrifices of praise and service to Your wonderful and holy name.

<sup>1</sup> Definition for "compassion", [www.dictionary.com/browse/compassion](http://www.dictionary.com/browse/compassion)

<sup>2</sup> In John 14:6 Christ said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me." Therefore, the name "the Messiah , Jesus Christ" has been used for "LORD."