



Reset,
Restore,
Revive,
in 2023

**Psalms
51:10-12**

Psalms 51:10-12, David says:

*Create in me a pure heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

*Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy
Spirit from me.*

*Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.*



Observations

- **As we challenge ourselves with the theme chosen by the congregation for the year, let's examine the life of a Biblical character that had to do what we are proposing to do (Reset, Restore, Revive)**
- **Reset - clearing your mind of burdensome distractions; like rebooting a computer, giving yourself a fresh start, not letting the past ultimately determine your present or your future, Phil 3:13-14**
- **I don't think that there was anyone more in need of a "Reset" than the principal author of Psalms, King David.**
- **Let's look at a story in his life that reminds us of our need to Reset, Restore, and Revive our relationship with Christ**

Background

- **David was chosen by God to be king of the nation of Israel when David's father saw no promise in his future, (His father had raised him tend to sheep all of his life) 1 Samuel 16**
- **God had a track-record of faithfulness to David (Goliath, Saul's murder attempt, Philistine and Amalekite Armies defeated)**
- **In 2 Samuel 2, David is named Israel's King, concluding his "meteoric rise from a nobody to a somebody"**
- **But in 2 Samuel 12, the Bible chronicles David's "adulterous tryst" with Bathsheba, whose husband was an officer in the army of Israel named Uriah**
- **Not only did David get Uriah's wife pregnant, but he brought Uriah home "on paid vacation" from the army to be with his wife to "mask the identity" of who the "baby's daddy was!"**
- **We would call this, "the cover up!"**

- **David thought that he had literally gotten away with murder and adultery. Uriah came home but didn't sleep with his wife**
- **But about nine months after David's debacle (murder and adultery) God sent the prophet Nathan to King David to help him to see the enormity of his sin**
- **Question: How would Nathan address David? How would he convict him? Would he quote Num. 32:23? "Be sure your sin will find you out."**
- **Answer: He gives him a story about sheep, a subject of which he was all too familiar. Before he was king he was a shepherd**
- **So, Nathan tells David about a rich man who had a huge number of sheep and a poor man who lived in the same town who owned only one small lamb. The poor man treated the lamb like a one of the family (the lamb grew up with his children, ate and drank from the same cup, slept in the man's arms)**

- Nathan said that one day the rich man had a guest in his home, 2 Samuel 12:1-10
- Rather than sacrificing one of his many sheep, he had the poor man's one pet lamb killed, and served him as lamb chops for his guest
- David was stirred with anger as the story was being told and pronounced sentence on the selfish sheep owner:
- So, David says, *"As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die, and he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."*
- Nathan looks David in the eyes and said, **"You are the man!"**
- David's sins are forgiven; but he will have to suffer the consequences of his sins (the child died, Absalom, David's son, mimicked his father's sinful example) We, too, are not immune to the lifestyle consequences of sin as God's people (spousal abuse, child neglect, lifestyle diseases, H.I.V., etc.)
- **Until it hurts us to hurt God, we won't appreciate the significance of our misbehavior**

Nathan Details to David That God Had Itemized How He Had Been Blessed

Nathan Argues to David That God Didn't Believe He Deserved This Treatment! 2 Samuel 12:7-10

- God had anointed him as King of the nation of Israel
- God protected him from King Saul's assassination attempt
- God had given him all of the riches the previous King had accumulated
- "I gave you all of your previous king's wives (sheep)"
- "I unified the nation of Israel and Judah under your reign"

God's Argument To Us Is That Our Blessings From Him Should Increase, Rather Than Decrease, Our Loyalty!

How Did David Reset, Restore, and Revive His Life?

#1 He Was Convicted of His Guilt

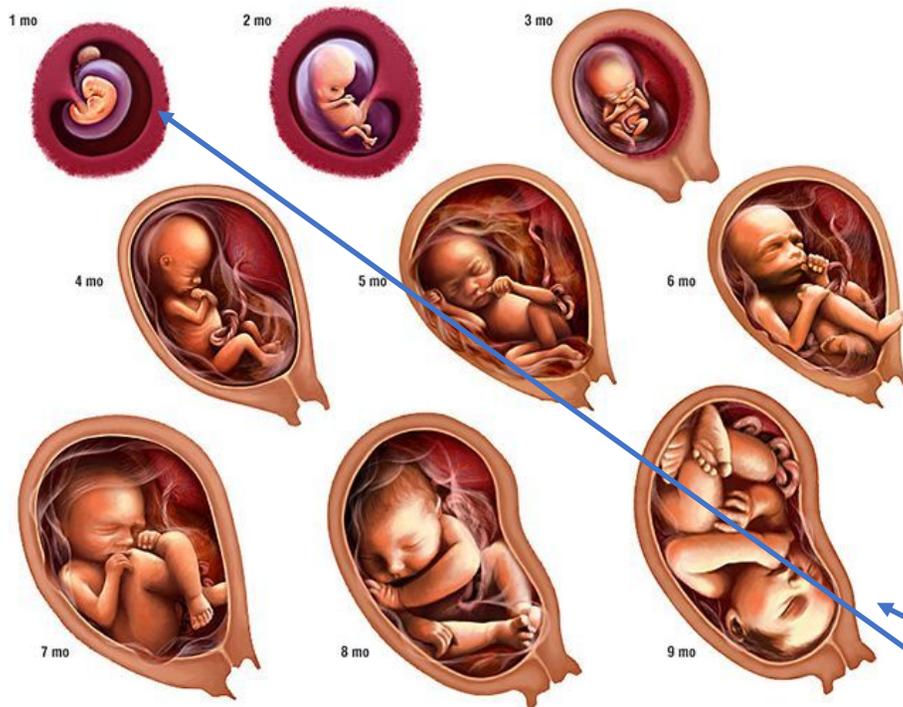
“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.” Psalms 51:1-2

- David had to face his sins (come to grips with his sins) before God put his sins behind HIM
- He couldn't play the blame game with God for his sins (*it was all Bathsheba's fault, or I was given too much to drink*)
- We tend to believe that if we are “victims” we don't have to accept personal responsibility for our toxic attitudes and behaviors
- The blame game is the oldest one in the Bible. Adam blamed God for his misbehavior “the woman you gave me.” Eve blamed the serpent for causing her to disobey.

Questions for Us to Consider

- Have you been blaming others for the mistakes you've made?
- Do you really have a secret belief that you are not responsible for your attitude or your actions (*I have to fight fire with fire!*)
- Have you made remarks like: *"You'd sin too if you were married to my spouse!"* *"You have to curse some times!"*
- Have you made remarks like this: *"You'd do what I have done if you had been raised in my family!"* see *Isaiah 59:1-2*
- Be very careful when you begin to believe that your sins don't smell to God *"like other folks sins."*
- Notice that David unequivocally expresses his supreme sinfulness to God with no explanations or rationalizations basically saying, *"Lord I'm wrong and you're right!"*

Notice David is Pro-life in His Confession to God, Psalms 51:5-6



“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

And in sin my mother conceived me.

Behold, You desire truth (faithfulness) in the inward parts (womb), And in the hidden part you will make me know wisdom”

Question: When does “IT” become “ME?”

Answer: Conception

Don't remove me from here or here!

#2 David Was Willing to Restore His Relationship With God By Confessing His Faults to God

- After David was “busted” about his sins, he was ready to confess them, Psalms 51:3-4,

For I know my transgressions and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

- David was so concerned about what God thought about Him that he remained guilt-ridden inside (my sin is always ...)
- There is no “getting it right” until we first admit and confess that we’ve done wrong, James 5:16; 1John 1:9

When We Confess Our Guilt and Reveal Our Honesty, It's Amazing What God Will Still Do For Us!

- David's initial child by the adulterous tryst with Bathsheba became very ill and eventually died a week after birth, 2 Samuel 12
- But after David's repentance and confession to God of His grossly immoral behavior, Bathsheba became pregnant again—this time as King David's wife. The second child to David and Bathsheba was named:

Solomon!

King Solomon

King Solomon was greater in wisdom and riches than all the other kings of the earth. The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart, 1 Kings 10:23-24

- **God blessed the relationship between David and Bathsheba to produce an outstanding son even though their relationship began under immoral circumstances**
- **When David Reset, Restored, and Revived his relationship with God, great things happened in his life, Acts 17:30**
- **If David can Rebound from his heinous crimes we can too!**

The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

