

# Psalm 51

*For the maestro:  
a song of David  
to sing and strum  
which he wrote  
when Nathan  
the prophet  
came to him  
after his sin  
with Bathsheba.*

Have mercy on me, O God, now I pray,  
According to Your loyal love for me,  
According to Your mercy, which is great  
Blot out my great transgression from Your sight!

Thoroughly wash me from iniquity,  
And cleanse me from my sin completely, Lord,  
For I myself know my transgressions, God,  
My sin is always there in front of me!

Against no other than You I have sinned,  
And what I've done is evil in Your eyes,  
So that You are proved right each time You speak  
And You are justified each time You judge!

Behold, I have been sinful from my birth:  
In sin my mother was with child with me:  
Behold, You want truth in the inner parts,  
And You teach wisdom in the inmost parts!

Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean:  
Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow:  
And let me hear gladness and joy again  
And let the bones that You have crushed rejoice!

And hide Your face from all my sins, I pray,  
And blot out all of my iniquities:  
Create in me a purer heart, O God:  
Renew a steadfast spirit within me.

And do not cast me from Your presence, Lord:  
Your Holy Spirit do not take from me:  
Restore to me Your great salvation's joy  
And with a noble spirit sustain me.

Then I will teach transgressors of Your way  
And sinners will repent and turn to You:  
Save me from blood-guilt, O God, now I pray:  
You are the God from Whom salvation comes!

My tongue will sing of Your great righteousness:  
Open my lips, and I will sing Your praise:  
You would not have me bring a sacrifice:  
In burnt offerings You do not delight!

A broken spirit is a sacrifice,  
A broken, contrite heart You'll not despise.  
Be pleased to do good to Mount Zion, Lord,  
Build up the ramparts of Jerusalem.

You will be pleased with righteous offerings,  
With sacrifices and burnt offerings:  
Bulls will be offered on Your altar, Lord.  
[These gifts will then be pleasing to our God.]

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