

Living With The Memory Of My Sin

Psalm 51:1-17 - (New Living Translation) - Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. ²Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. ³For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night.

⁴Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just. ⁵For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me. ⁶But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.

⁷Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. ⁸Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—now let me rejoice. ⁹Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt. ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. ¹¹Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you. ¹³Then I will teach your ways to rebels, and they will return to you. ¹⁴Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves; then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness. ¹⁵Unseal my lips, O Lord, that my mouth may praise you. ¹⁶You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering. ¹⁷The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

Why It Is Good To Remember Our Sin

•If we could not remember our sin, we could never testify to the goodness of God.

Psalm 107:1-2, - Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever. ²Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies. ¹⁷Some were fools; they rebelled and suffered for their sins. ¹⁸They couldn't stand the thought of food, and they were knocking on death's door. ¹⁹"Lord, help!" they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. ²⁰He sent out his word and healed them, snatching them from the door of death. ²¹Let them praise the Lord for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them. ²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and sing joyfully about his glorious acts.

•If we could not remember our sin, we would not be warned against doing them again.

¹ Timothy 6:11-12 - Run from all these evil things. Pursue righteousness and a godly life, along with faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight for the true faith. Hold tightly to the eternal life to which God has called you, which you have declared so well before many witnesses.

•If we could not remember our sin, we could not rejoice in our victories and our growth.

Psalm 52:8-9 - I will always trust in God's unfailing love. ⁹ I will praise you forever, O God, for what you have done. I will trust in your good name in the presence of your faithful people.

We need to get to the point where we can say, "I'm not who I ought to be, but praise God, I'm not who I was!"