

Psalm 51:1-10 (NLT)

For the choir director: A psalm of David, regarding the time Nathan the prophet came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

1 Have mercy on me, O God,
because of your unfailing love.

Because of your great compassion,
blot out the stain of my sins.

2 Wash me clean from my guilt.
Purify me from my sin.

3 For I recognize my rebellion;
it haunts me day and night.

4 Against 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.^[a]

5 For I was born a sinner—
yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

6 But you desire honesty from the womb,^[b]
teaching me wisdom even there.

7 Purify me from my sins,^[c] and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 Oh, give me back my joy again;
you have broken me—
now let me rejoice.

9 Don't keep looking at my sins.

Remove the stain of my guilt.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Renew a loyal spirit within me.

Footnotes:

- a. **51:4** Greek version reads *and you will win your case in court*. Compare **Rom 3:4**.
- b. **51:6** Or *from the heart*; Hebrew reads *in the inward parts*.
- c. **51:7** Hebrew *Purify me with the hyssop branch*.