

A Clean Heart

Submitted by Elder Carol Richardson

Psalm 51:10 (KJV)

“Create in me a clean heart, O God; And renew a right spirit within me.”

Most of us, if not all of us, are familiar with the infamously blessed song by Fred Hammond, “Give Me a Clean Heart”.

There’s a line in this song that should cause us all to give full attention to the condition of our hearts. It says “I’m determined to have life with no chains, give me a clean heart and I will serve nobody but You.

When David prayed in Psalm 51 “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me” He had just been confronted by Nathan the prophet about his behaviors concerning Bathsheba. God sent the man of God to tell David that God had seen what he’d done. David then realized his real sin was against God. He didn’t die due to his sin because God still had mercy on him. But David still had to deal with some consequences because of his sin.

What’s important here is that David realized that he allowed his flesh, his desires, his will to supersede the desires of God. David had a heart condition. His heart was not clean. It was contaminated. He still was chained and held bondage to things from his past.

If we were to study the life of David, or better yet if we even take the time to study our own lives, we would begin to see how our hearts have also been contaminated. Contaminated and held bondage by chains of hurt, pain, dysfunction, rejection, abandonment, abuse, control, illness or anything else that impacts how and why we make choices in our life that are not pleasing to God.

God forgave David’s wrongdoing when David first recognized the condition and then confessed them to God. God will surely do the same for us because He loves us that much. But what God really desires the most is that we desire to have a heart after Him. A pure, uncontaminated heart. One that is pure physically, morally, ethically and spiritually. A heart that worships Him and desires His ways above all else.

Psalm 139:22-24 says “Search me, God, and know my heart; Put me to the test and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there is any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.

In our times of prayer and meditation, we should ask God to search our hearts. Whatever hurtful ways He reveals in us, He will also lead us to that everlasting way if we let Him. Let us be determined to live a life with no chains. Let God break our chains of bondage so with a clean heart we can serve nobody but Him.