

**2-6-22**  
**LESSONS FROM THE REBELLION OF SAUL**

**HOW SAULS HEART WENT AWAY FROM THE LORD**  
**A LESSON TO HELP US KEEP OUR HEART WITH ALL DILIGENCE**

Scripture reading I Samuel 15:1-11.

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Saul's Subtle Fall into Spiritual Failure:  
HE FAILED TO LET GOD SPEAK TO HIS HEART.

Intro: One of the saddest things that we see the longer we are saved are people who once seemed to be serving the Lord and being used of God fall by the wayside and go down in life defeated spiritually with a bad testimony in the end.

The Biblical story of King Saul is a lesson of warning to every child of God.

None of us are immune from falling and washing out spiritually.

Last week we shared how King Saul was an example of Backsliding. Today we are going to dig deeper into his failures and hopefully we will learn not to follow in his footsteps of failure.

As we read and study the biblical account of Saul's spiritual failures we need to get insight into what happens in a persons life to lead them into a backslidden state.

I Samuel 15:1 Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.

I Samuel 15:2 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

I Samuel 15:3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

I Samuel 15:4 And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

I Samuel 15:5 And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

I Samuel 15:6 And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

I Samuel 15:7 And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.

I Samuel 15:8 And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

I Samuel 15:9 But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

I Samuel 15:10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

I Samuel 15:11 It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

I Samuel 15:12 And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

I Samuel 15:13 And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.

I Samuel 15:14 And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

I Samuel 15:15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

I Samuel 15:16 Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

I Samuel 15:17 And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?

I Samuel 15:18 And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

I Samuel 15:19 Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?

I Samuel 15:20 And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

I Samuel 15:21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

I Samuel 15:22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

I Samuel 15:23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

***I. GOD LOOKS AT DOING HIS WORK YOUR OWN WAY AS REBELLION AND INIQUITY.***

***II. GOD LOOKS AT TRYING TO PLEASE PEOPLE MORE THAN HIM AS INIQUITY AND REBELLION.***

### **III. GOD WILL NOT BLESS US UNTIL WE SEE THIS SIN OF REBELLION AS HE SEES IT.**

AN EXAMPLE OF HOW OUR HEARTS CAN STRAY FROM THE LORD.

#### **I. REBELLION AND INIQUITY STARTS IN THE HEART OF A PERSON SEEKING TO DO GOD'S WORK HIS OWN WAY.**

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Jeremiah 17:10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

This is what confuses people.

#### **1. Saul rebelled against the Lord but still won the battle.**

I Samuel 15:3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

I Samuel 15:9 But Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

I Samuel 15:15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

This is the ends justifies the means religious crowd.

Some people think that as long as you are doing something for the Lord that makes it ok.

We think that good results justify our violation of the Word of God.

Some people look at the results of some and say that because God is blessing that must make what a person is doing good and right. No, did you ever think that God may bless in spite of a persons rebellion?

Moses struck the Rock and disobeyed God but the water still came out of the rock. Did he bless because Moses struck the rock? No. He blessed and gave the water because the people needed water. So God blessed in spite of the wrongful action of Moses.

Did you ever stop and think that Judas Iscariot went out with the disciples, preached and cast out demons just like the other apostles but he was a devil.

Saul won a great victory over the Amalikites but was in a backslidden state.

Notice what Saul told Samuel: "...we have saved the best sheep to sacrifice to the Lord.."

Surely the Lord will be pleased with that.

The truth is that Saul and the people wanted to have a celebration and a party. They used sacrificing to the Lord as an excuse to do what they wanted to do.

Saul did not think that the Lord was displeased with him because of the great victory that they had.

People violate the word of God and it seems they get away with it.

They seem happy and they are celebrating. They are able to draw big crowds. They seem to have great victories, but they are in rebellion against God.

So everyone thinks all is well, but it is not.

Until the Prophet Samuel comes by and crashes the party.

**2. NOTE: You cannot violate God's word in one area in order to please Him in some other and expect his blessing in the end.**

God does not judge sin right away.

***Ecclesiastes 8:11 Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.***

This is a prevalent error that we see today. We need to get our eyes off of people and get our eyes on the Lord. Why do we look to people for guidance? We should look solely on the Word of God!

Some people say we are doing thus and so in order that more people get saved.

It is obvious that God would be pleased with such a sacrifice.

Ecumenical get togethers.

Worldly entertainment in the church, strobe lights, rap music, etc.

Means of raising money. Raffle off a bottle of Booze. Have a beer bash.

Some would justify letting down the standards of the Bible concerning leadership. Male leadership is commanded of God.

Some would lower the standards of moral purity in the church to cater to the politically correct crowd.

Application: Saul thought that God would certainly overlook this little change in the command for the good purpose of sacrificing the best of the sheep and oxen.

And certainly a live King is a better testimony of their victory than a dead one. We can show him off to everyone.

How we can reason away so many of the commands of God?

Certainly in the day we live God would not mind using women preachers as long as the work is getting done. We can look at results and say, is not a good work being done? Look at the results.

Saul said, we got the job done, the people are excited and celebrating. What could be wrong with that?

WHAT IS WRONG IS THAT GOD SAID DON'T DO IT!

God certainly would be pleased with using any means to draw a crowd as long a salvation is being preached. The more that hear the more there will be that get saved.

God certainly would not care using a few worldly tactics to raise money for His church, after all it is for a good cause.

## ***II. OUR HEARTS GO ASTRAY FROM GOD WHEN WE SEEK TO LISTEN AND PLEASE PEOPLE RATHER THAN GOD.***

If we want God to speak to our hearts we need to get away from the crowd and get alone with God.

II Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

II Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

II Timothy 4:4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

I'll guarantee you that the suggestion to save the best of the sheep and oxen and to save the King alive did not originate with Saul but with the people.

I Samuel 15:15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

Ultimately it is the responsibility of the leader to lead and not the people. Leadership is being called into question in our country like never before.

Jude 1:8 says that a characteristic of an end time people will be that they will despise dominion!

Saul was a King after the people's heart. They wanted a King like all the other nations and they got one. One who was more desirous of pleasing the people rather than pleasing God.

Situation at Hickory Street. Deacon. Pastor resigned. Got a fellow mad at me who was supposedly my best friend.

But I believe I was following the will of God.

I have never found it easy to follow the will of God and most of the time there are a lot of people that will get upset at you when you try to follow God's will exclusively.

**III. GOD WILL NOT BLESS US UNTIL WE SEE THIS SIN OF REBELLION AS GOD SEES IT... THE ONLY WAY WE CAN SEE OUR SIN AS HE SEES IT IS IF GOD SPEAKS TO OUR HEARTS.**

Saul made a show of superficial repentance..

The problem was that Saul wanted to please the people. Saul never got alone with God and tried to see his sin as God saw it.

I Samuel 15:30 Then he said, I have sinned: yet honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God.

I visited a fellow in prison one time. He could pray a sincere prayer. He could sound real good, you would think he had repented.

But He was just a chameleon going through the motions.

True repentance comes when we see our sin as a sin against God and not man.

David with sin of Bathsheba:

Psalms 51:1 {To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bath-sheba.} Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

Psalms 51:2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalms 51:3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

Psalms 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

Psalms 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalms 51:6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

David saw himself as a sinner and his passions of sin came from his very sin nature that he got from Adam.

From the womb he had a tendency to go astray.

David made no excuses. He just asked God to transform his heart and life.

David didn't blame Bathsheba. He did not say well Lord she was in my Mikvah, and therefore tempted me.

Saul blamed the people.

Saul said he did it for the Lord.

Though the sin of Saul seemed to be less of a sin than David's sin.

Still he did not properly repent of that sin and it was the ruin of him!

David saw that he needed a new heart to be cleared of sin:

Psalms 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Psalms 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

Psalms 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Psalms 51:13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Psalms 51:14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

Invitation:

True repentance is seeing ourselves as God sees us.

True repentance is seeing our sin as God sees it.

The natural man cannot see this. We need the spirit of God to see ourselves as God sees us.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

We need to see as God sees.

Our minds need to be transformed.

SALVATION:

For salvation you need to see yourself as God sees you.

A sinner in need of Salvation.

SANCTIFICATION:

Christian, can you see those little things you do as iniquity and rebellion against God?

Saul could not see it that way and he failed.

David, though his sin was greater still, he could see his sin for what it was.

Is God speaking to your heart this morning?

**THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DAVID AND KING SAUL.  
DAVID ALLOWED GOD TO CONTINUE TO SPEAK TO HIS HEART.**

SEE HOW SAULS SIN LEAD TO WITCHCRAFT.

I Samuel 15:23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

What is ironic is that at the end of his life he actually seeks a witch for advice. He goes to the witch at Endor to bring up Samuel.

**I. CAN A SAVED PERSON EVER LOOSE HIS ZEAL FOR THE LORD AND LOVE FOR THE WORD OF GOD?**

Pastor for 39 years. Seen many people come and go, and people who have claimed to be Christians do some disgraceful things.

I Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

I Peter 5:9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

Once you are saved, the devil will seek to make you in ineffective for God. It has happened to Pastors, Deacons, and faithful members of the church.

I Corinthians 9:27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

I believe that Saul was backslidden, but yet still a believer.

Saul was in my opinion a believer.

Samuel said, today you will be with me.

I Samuel 28:19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

**III. WHAT ARE THE EVIDENCES OF A HEART THAT HAS ALLOWED SIN TO ENTER IN?**

**1. A Christian may lose their joy in the Christian life.**

Psalms 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

The New Testament says that it is possible for a Christian to get bitter.

Hebrews 12:14 Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Hebrews 12:15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

Praise God Jesus forgave Peter.

Praise God Jesus forgave Saul who became the Apostle Paul.

King Saul became a bitter man. He went from blaming the people to blaming David!

A bitter man will become cruel, vindictive, and mean.

## ***2. A backslidden Christian will cease to have a zeal for winning others to Christ.***

Psalms 51:13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Most backslidden Christian will not have a desire to teach others about Christ.

Saul became more concerned with his vendettas than the work of God.

At one point he even had the High Priest and his family killed.

## ***3. Chastening of God will become evident in your life:***

Hebrews 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

Hebrews 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Things will go wrong. Not all chastening is because a person is backslidden but God does promise to bring chastening if you backslide.

## **SAUL WAS PLAGUED OF THE DEVIL:**

I Samuel 16:14 But the spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.

I Samuel 16:15 And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.

I Samuel 16:16 Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well.

I Samuel 16:17 And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me.

I Samuel 16:18 Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Beth-lehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him.

I Samuel 16:19 Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep.

Emotional torment.

Problems and strife.

Saul became paranoid and discontent.

#### ***4. Ultimately Saul lost communication with God and He had sinned the sin unto death.***

Broken communication with God:

I Samuel 28:5 And when Saul saw the host of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart greatly trembled.

I Samuel 28:6 And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.

Psalms 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

Psalms 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

No longer enjoy reading the Bible.

No longer enjoy prayer.

No longer does God speak to your heart.

We as Christians can allow sin to quench the Holy Spirit of God in our hearts and we will suffer for it.

God will not speak to your heart in preaching services.

God will not speak to your heart in prayer.

God will not lead and guide you like He used to.

Saul ultimately went his own way in trying to communicate with God.

I Samuel 28:7 Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit, that I may go to her, and inquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at En-dor.

I Samuel 28:8 And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me him up, whom I shall name unto thee.

I Samuel 28:9 And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?

I Samuel 28:10 And Saul sware to her by the LORD, saying, As the LORD liveth, there shall no punishment happen to thee for this thing.

I Samuel 28:11 Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.

I Samuel 28:12 And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul.

I Samuel 28:13 And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.

I Samuel 28:14 And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.

I Samuel 28:15 And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

I Samuel 28:16 Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?

I Samuel 28:17 And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, even to David:

I Samuel 28:18 Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day.

I Samuel 28:19 Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

There is a chastening unto death for those who refuse to listen to God.

Saul went so long in his backslidden state that ultimately God took him in chastening.

God allowed as much time as possible for him to repent until there was no remedy for his sin.

#### **IV. WHY DID DAVID NOT DIE? WHY DID IT NOT GO AS BAD FOR HIM?**

II Samuel 12:7 And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

II Samuel 12:8 And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

II Samuel 12:9 Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

II Samuel 12:10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.

II Samuel 12:11 Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.

II Samuel 12:12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.

II Samuel 12:13 And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

II Samuel 12:14 Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

Why did the Lord forgive David?

### **1. DAVID SAW HIS SIN AS GOD SAW IT!**

Psalms 51:3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

Psalms 51:4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

Psalms 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psalms 51:6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

### **2. DAVID SAW A NEED FOR CLEANSING FROM GOD INWARDLY THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Psalms 51:7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psalms 51:8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Psalms 51:9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

Psalms 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Psalms 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

### **3. DAVID WAS WILLING TO TURN DEFEAT IN A RADIANT TESTIMONY OF THE GRACE OF GOD**

Psalms 51:12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Psalms 51:13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Psalms 51:14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

Psalms 51:15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Who gets the glory in your testimony? You or God?

David was willing to share how God is merciful to those who acknowledge their sin and truly repent.

We are all trophies of God's grace and love and forgiveness.

No man will boast before God, and none of us should boast before God.

### **4. DAVID WAS WILLING TO GIVE CREDIT TO GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY AND NOT HIS GOOD WORKS. ALL THE CREDIT GOES TO THE GRACE AND KINDNESS OF GOD.**

Psalms 51:16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.

Psalms 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Psalms 51:18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Psalms 51:19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

Even that God ordained Solomon the second son of Bathsheba to be King was an example of God's mercy and kindness and love.

#### **Application:**

We are like David.

We made a mess of our lives and deserve God's wrath.

Because of His kindness, when we acknowledge our sins God's mercy and love kicks in and we are washed and cleansed in the blood of Christ.

Out of our wretched life God produces something good and productive for Him.

A Solomon is born and we have good fruit for God. Now we are able to be a testimony to the world of how God's grace saves wretched sinners and makes something good of them.

Invitation: Do you see your life as God sees it?  
Can you see your sin as God sees it?

Do you spend enough time alone with God for God to speak to your heart?

Two types of people who need a changed heart:

Saved and Unsaved.

### **I. To the unsaved.**

I Corinthians 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

I Corinthians 2:8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

I Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

I Corinthians 2:10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

I Corinthians 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

I Corinthians 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

I Corinthians 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

I Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

I Corinthians 2:15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

***We are born into this world natural men.  
We are born again into the family of God.***

Self when I first heard salvation, rejected it, contradicted it. Challenged to read Bible, went to college and a man handed me a Bible out of the clear blue. I was unsaved, couldn't understand it, and argued with it.

**GOD SPOKE TO MY HEART ABOUT MY NEED TO BE SAVED.**

I COULD HAVE TUNED GOD OUT, AND IF I DID I BELIEVE GOD MAY HAVE STOPPED SPEAKING TO ME! I COULD HAVE SINNED AWAY MY DAY OF GRACE.

Maybe you are here and the same thing happens to you. Need to be saved.

Need to receive Christ into your heart.

After I was saved I gained a hunger for the word of God and wanted to understand it, loved hearing it, etc.

## **II. TO THE SAVED:**

You can go so long in your sin that you can sin a sin unto death.

There is no remedy.

What makes the difference? Your heart.

If you will let God speak to your heart God will help you.. God will rescue you. God will convict of sin and you will see yourself as God sees you.