
‘CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART’

Why don't many Christians pray like king David after they have repented of some sin or falling away, “create in me a clean heart”? What is it that they cannot pray this prayer to a Holy God? The Bible reveals the answer as to why many Christians will not pray this prayer like king David, a man after God's heart! **King Saul** was man that was anointed by the power of the Holy Spirit. He had tasted the anointing of the Holy Spirit in a special way. God wanted to use this king in a powerful way but along his walk his heart turns cold and he breaks away from following Him wholeheartedly. In one of his many willful disobedience to God's commands, The Lord had no choice but to cut him loose! (1Samuel 15:10-16, 23.) After king Saul heard the words of the prophet Samuel **“Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king.”** (1Samuel 15:23c) The Bible clearly reveals the true heart of king Saul. **“Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned; I have indeed transgressed the command of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and listened to their voice. “Now therefore, please pardon my sin and return with me, that I may worship the Lord.”** (verses 24-25) The answer from Samuel was No! He said to Saul that God had rejected him from being king over Israel. (verse 26) Now in 1Samuel 15:30 it reveals Saul's hard heart and his independent spirit. **“Then he said, “I have sinned; but please honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel..”** This was not a prayer of repentance! It was a request concerning the welfare of king Saul and not God's honor. Saul could not pray like king David “Create in me a clean heart” because he wanted to follow God in his own stubborn ways. He gave God only half of his heart and never surrender his whole heart to God. The Bible says that the Holy Spirit eventually departed from Saul. (1Samuel 16:14) Why did God depart from king Saul? He never prayed like king David, “Create in me a clean heart’ because he never really wanted to change. Saul was eventually lost!



Samson was another man of God that never prayed like king David, “Create in me a clean heart”. Why? Because this anointed man called by God even before he was born loved playing with sin and

taking chances. The Word of God tells us that he marries an unbeliever disobeying the laws of God knowing he was a Nazarite set apart to serve God. After being warned by God when a young lion attacks him, he still goes to **Timnah** and marries the devil’s daughter. (Judges 14:1-7) Samson was able to kill the lion because of God’s mercy on his life. We later see Samson in **Gaza** committing fornication with a prostitute. (Judges 16:1) He had no respect for the things of God or to a Holy God! The devil had made plans to kill Samson in the morning, but God woke him up at midnight as He warns him again to repent. I believe that Samson prayed a prayer like this, **“Strengthen me one more time like You did when I killed the ‘young lion’ and I will surrender my whole heart to you!”** We see in Scripture that God anoints him with the power of the Holy Ghost and he escapes from sure death as he carries the gates of the city up a hill opposite

Hebron. (1Samuel 16:2-3) After God delivers him from great danger and spares his life, Samson goes farther away from God’s presence and deeper into the devil’s territory. He says within himself, **“I will sin one more time”**. Now he goes down to the **valley of Sorek** to play with sin once again with a woman he loved named Delilah. Now the devil had anointed Delilah in order to use her to get to Samson. Samson is full of lust for sex and Delilah is the “Fulness of Lust” in the flesh. Delilah said to Samson, **“Please tell me where your great strength is and how you may be bound to afflict you.”** (1Samuel 16:6) After this one of the



greatest battle for a godly man’s heart is set off. Three times Delilah bounds Samson and three times Samson breaks free. Samson's mentality is **“I will play with sin one more time and then I will repent.”** But those three times God helps Samson to break free He is warning him to repent. God is saying, “ Samson, stop your playing with sin, Repent before it is too late! Instead of repenting and praying like king David, “Create in me a clean heart” The Bible records in Judges 16:17-18 that Samson surrenders his whole heart to the devil! **“So he told her all that was in his heart...when**

“...but he did not know that the Lord had departed from him.”

Delilah saw that he had told her all that was in his heart, she sent and called the lords of the Philistines, saying,“Come up once more, for he has told me all that is in his heart.”

The battle for Samson’s heart was over at this point as the devil won this round. God had no choice but to leave Samson. (Judges 16:20) **“...but he did not know that the Lord had departed from him.”**The Word of God tells us that Samson was blinded by the devil and taken to prison. (Judges 16:21) Samson lost his sight, his freedom, his anointing , and his power from God. Later we find Samson praying **“O Lord God, please remember me and please strengthen me just**

this time, O God, that I may at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.” (Judges 16:28) The problem with this prayer was that it was not what God wanted to hear from Samson. Samson should have prayed, “God forgive me for my sins, forgive me for hurting You, for

dishonoring your name, God have mercy on me and “**Create in me a clean heart.**” But Samson’s prayer was not a prayer of true repentance but about him. This was a prayer for **revenge** and not about a heart that had repented. He never gave God his whole heart. I believe that if Samson would have prayed like king David, “**Create in me a clean heart**” he would have never died with the Philistines that day. Samson's heart was too hard and he was so blind that he could not see with spiritual eyes anymore. Samson never fulfill his destiny and God’s plan for his life because he never allow Him to change his heart. King Saul prayed a similar prayer like Samson, “**Then he said, “I have sinned; but please honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel..”**”

Both king Saul and Samson never surrendered their hearts to God and wanted to serve Him in the power of the **Flesh** and doing their will. The consequences were great for both of these once godly men of God. All they had to do was to truly repent from a whole heart. I believe after king David’s fall with Bathsheba and when he was confronted by the prophet Nathan, that he read in the Word of God about Samson. He was an eye witness of king Saul's fall from grace and how both men tasted the ugliness of the Holy Spirit departing from them. “**Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”** (2Samuel 12:13) But the difference between the prayers of Saul and Samson was that king David truly repented with all his heart. David never wanted to hurt God in this manner again. This is why the Bible reveals David’s true prayer of repentance Psalms 51:10-12 (“**Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take your Holy Spirit from me**”) David wanted God to change his heart. He wanted to be more like Jesus! Have you been praying like David, “Create in me a clean heart” when you confess your sins to a Holy God when you go daily to your prayer closet? Every Christian should pray like David and allow God to change his heart or we might be in danger of becoming like Saul and Samson in our walk with God in this last days we are living in. Proverbs 23:26 says, “**Give Me your heart, My son, and let your eyes delight in My ways.**”