

Christ in the Psalms

The Psalm of the Unworthy Subject



WEST SOUND COMMUNITY CHURCH

Fall 2021

Anger, bitterness, intrigue, adultery, betrayal, and murder...what do they have in common?

The Bible.

In fact, one cannot read the Bible without sometimes standing in awe of the absolute honesty of God. In raw, uncensored, and vivid vignettes of ancient history, the Lord confronts us with our need for his mercy and grace.

For example, consider:

1. The Psalm of the Unworthy Subject: Psalm 51:1-5

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

But what prompted King David to write this agonizing confession of his soul? For that, as Paul Harvey would say, we need the rest of the story.

So, let's take a look at

2. The History of the Unworthy Subject: 2 Samuel

A. 2 Samuel 11

David's _____ involving _____

B. 2 Samuel 13:1-22

David's son, Amnon, _____ Tamar

C. 2 Samuel 13:23-39

David's son, Absalom, _____ Amnon

D. 2 Samuel 15:1-12

David's son, Absalom, creates a _____

E. 2 Samuel 15:12,31

David's trusted counselor, Ahithophel, _____ Absalom

F. 2 Samuel 17:14

David's trusted counselor, Ahithophel, is _____ by Absalom

G. 2 Samuel 17:23

David's trusted counselor, Ahithophel, _____ himself

Question: Why do you suppose Ahithophel, one of David's most trustworthy counselors betrayed his king?

H. 2 Samuel 11:3

"Isn't this _____, the daughter of _____"

I. 2 Samuel 23:34

"_____ son of _____"

Answer: Ahithophel was _____ !

3. The Psalm of the Forgiven Subject: Psalm 32:1-5

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Selah

Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD" — and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah



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A. 2 Samuel 11

David's sin involving Bathsheba

B. 2 Samuel 13:1-22

David's son, Amnon, abuses Tamar

C. 2 Samuel 13:23-39

David's son, Absalom, murders Amnon

D. 2 Samuel 15:1-12

David's son, Absalom, creates a rebellion

E. 2 Samuel 15:12,31

David's trusted counselor, Ahithophel, follows Absalom

F. 2 Samuel 17:14

David's trusted counselor, Ahithophel, is rejected by Absalom

G. 2 Samuel 17:23

David's trusted counselor, Ahithophel, kills himself

Question: Why do you suppose Ahithophel, one of David's most trustworthy counselors betrayed his king?

H. 2 Samuel 11:3

"Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam"

I. 2 Samuel 23:34

"Eliam son of Ahithophel"

Answer: Ahithophel was Bathsheba's Grandfather!

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