Lesson 30: Psalm 51

May 10, 2006

I. David Confesses His Sin: Psalm 51:1–6

Principle: Confession of sin, and sinfulness, is essential to receiving God's forgiveness.

II. David Asks for Cleansing, Renewal and Restoration: Psalm 51:7–12

Principle: Being forgiven and cleansed by God restores the joy of our Salvation!

III. David Makes Promises to God: Psalm 51:13–15

Principle: Receiving cleansing and forgiveness from God causes us to share the Gospel and sing praises to Him!

IV. David Offers True Sacrifices: Psalm 51:16–19

Principle: The true sacrifice of God is the heart that is humble and contrite and trembles at God's word

Notes:

A BROKEN PATH (A Sestina)

By: K.B. Psalm 51

A mirror, hanging from heaven beckons me to gaze. A reflection, rising from hell, declares my shame. Oh, aching heart, how can you endure the charge? Oh, feet of clay, how can you carry me to happiness? Lost, lost is all of my will to have hope. Lost, innocence to a journey of my simple desires.

A fiery crucible only stirs up the flames of desire. A sifting of my soul, proclaims more in the mirror to gaze. Oh, turn away, don't see me or I shall lose all of hope. Oh, bury me alive that I may not suffer in this shame. Lost is direction, of the soft voice carrying me to happiness. Lost in confusion, I give myself over to the charge.

An act, but to only You have I sinned and will be charged. A contrite heart, You asked nothing else in Your desires. Oh the guilt I bear, too deep for real happiness. Oh turn away my God, do not look upon me with Your gaze. Lost is the joy to live, given over to the sorrow of shame. Lost to me is the path guiding me to the place of hope.

A turning point surely comes, carrying melodies of gentle hope. A burning grief, softens, carrying desire to face the charge. Oh bring me back my God, carry me away from my burden of shame. Oh the fire still burns my heart, still refining me of my desires. Lost in my prison, but I peer through the bars, and onto freedom I gaze. Lost are the sharp barbs of my affliction, healing love brings happiness.

A passage comes; humbly my steps bring me closer and closer to happiness. A place of refuge becomes my fortress; a place of despair, now brings hope. Oh my God, I still know the suffering soul, but, again, I seek Your gaze. Oh Lord of my life, let me lay at your pierced feet the burden of my charge. Lost, a peace previously shared, but only to discover a new desire. Lost once in darkness, I walk with humility from such great shame.

A reward is there for those who endure, who journey beyond shame. A gift, Dear Savior, sets me before a life with greater happiness. Oh, Your whispered voice carries to my ears goodness and Godly desires. Oh, in You, and only in You is the restoration of all that we hope. Lost, is the sting, of life abiding with so dark a charge. Lost, is the wanting to hide from your loving gaze.

From my shame, only in You do I turn and gaze with wonder. Your desire refreshes my hope, brings me to happiness, and shall never hold memory of my charge.