

A marble bust of a classical figure, possibly a deity or philosopher, with curly hair, set against a background of cracked, aged parchment. The bust is centered and slightly to the left. The text is overlaid on the bust.

A Requiem For a Dead Soul

Psalms 51: I Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

True Repentance:

Grace restored allowing us to participate in the will of God.

True faith always involves
repentance.

True repentance always involves
faith.

We see people who make an outward profession of faith who become involved in the life of a church, who are present in worship on Sunday morning but whose lives remain unchanged, and whose lives are Godless. That person is in serious, serious trouble because added to his paganism is his practice of blasphemy in which he enters into the holy things of God pretending to be a believer when, in fact, he is not. And so, he adds to his guilt before God.

Jonathan Edwards

Matthew 7: 21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘**Lord, Lord,**’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ **23** Then I will tell them plainly, ‘**I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!**’

There is no real conversion
without a real turning away
from a **sinful life**.

Psalms 51: 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
and justified when you judge.
5 Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Psalms 51: 6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;

you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Psalm 51: 8 Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

Sin robs us of our joy.

Psalm 51: 9 Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

10 Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Psalm 51: 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
so that sinners will turn back to you.

14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God,
you who are God my Savior,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

15 Open my lips, Lord,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

Psalm 51: 16 You do not delight in sacrifice, or I
would bring it;

you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

17 My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;

a broken and contrite heart

you, God, will not despise.

18 May it please you to prosper Zion,

to build up the walls of Jerusalem.

Psalm 51: 19 Then you will delight in the sacrifices
of the righteous,
in burnt offerings offered whole;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

John 21: 15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, **do you love me** more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “**Feed my lambs.**”

16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, **do you love me?**”

John 21: He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “**Take care of my sheep.**”

17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, **do you love me?**”

John 21: Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “**Feed my sheep.**”

When you find it difficult to forgive
yourself:

(1). Trust (focus on) the
forgiveness you have in God
through Christ.

When you find it difficult to forgive
yourself:

(2). Focus on your love for Christ.

Forgiveness from God is about
God's love for me.

Self-forgiveness is about my
love for God.

Church and worship exist, in
part,
to remind us of God's love for
us AND our love for God.

When you find it difficult to forgive
yourself:

**(3). Focus on your ministry and
service to others.**

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