

“For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just.” Psalms 51:3-4 NLT

lectio // Psalm 51:1-17

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

Psalm 51, the pattern, the model for true repentance. It was written as a public document, maybe even a song. One commentary says he was 35 yrs old when he wrote this. So much had happened! How does a man come back after a rape and murder? Not many survive that. Yeah, he was king, but he still had a conscience and a soul. No matter if he was self pardoned, he must have been tortured by his decisions. He had the added layer of his son dying, a clear judgment on what he had done. But here, in this Psalm it is a glimpse of his confession, admittance and acceptance of his sin and judgment. God had declared what his future would look like and David knew it would all come to pass. Not one of his sons could escape the rebellious ways, the lust for power and stuff. In the end it proved too much for the legacy David had created. And yet, through that same lineage eventually came the savior of the world! That is the long story of redemption.

oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

My sins are not published for all to see but there are also not hidden from you. Also, my sins may not quantitatively compare with David's, but my heart is just as wicked and my need of repentance and redemption is still very real. Create in me (also) a clean heart oh God, and renew a right spirit within me!

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root