

# Scripture

## Psalm 51 (NLT)

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God,  
because of your unfailing love.  
Because of your great compassion,  
blot out the stain of my sins.
- 2 Wash me clean from my guilt.  
Purify me from my sin.
- 3 For I recognize my rebellion;  
it haunts me day and night.

4 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.

5 For I was born a sinner— yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

6 But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.

- 7 Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- 8 Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—  
now let me rejoice.
- 9 Don't keep looking at my sins.  
Remove the stain of my guilt.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
Renew a loyal spirit within me.

- 11 Do not banish me from your presence,  
and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.
- 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and make me willing to obey you.
- 13 Then I will teach your ways to rebels,  
and they will return to you.
- 14 Forgive me for shedding blood, O God  
who saves; then I will joyfully sing of  
your forgiveness.

**15** Unseal my lips, O Lord,

that my mouth may praise you.

**16** You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one.

You do not want a burnt offering.

**17** The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

**18** Look with favor on Zion and help her; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

**19** Then you will be pleased with sacrifices offered in the right spirit—with burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings. Then bulls will again be sacrificed on your altar.