

A Pure Heart & A Steadfast Spirit

Psalms 51:10 - 12

- ***Ps 51:10 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.***
- ***12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. (NIV)***
- ***(NKJV) v.12 "... And uphold me by Your generous Spirit"***

I. CREATE

- In Genesis God created everything from nothing!
- He spoke and it was...
- Rom.4:17b *“...the God who gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were.”*
- King David wrote this Psalm after being corrected (re Bathsheba) by Nathan...
- The adulterer asks God to create something that is not there!
- A clean, pure heart & a steadfast spirit...

- Warwick Shenton: “As kingdom people we should be the most highly motivated people on earth.”
- Are we? Compare Christians with:
- Top Businessmen Politicians
- Professional Sportsmen Hobbies

Time Magazine (10/4/95) reported on a “Jesus Seminar” – Theologians Bible Tribunal

Did Jesus literally rise from the dead?	NO!
Is the Bible literally true?	NO!
Is the virgin birth literally true?	NO!

How can theologians not believe?

- As we approach end times, how motivated...?
- Jn.14:3 *"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."*
- 1Th.4:16 *"For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first."*
- 2Th 2:3 *"Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction."*

II. RENEW

- Everything on earth lives, grows then dies!
- Great civilizations!
- Egypt Assyria (Mesopotamia) Babylon
Persia Greece Rome Holy Roman...
- Where are they today?
- Where will the great Western Civilization be?
- Everything has a season – it grows & dies!
- Without God they get worse & worse...
- Violent, cruel civilizations of the past:

- 5. Celts – (Braveheart) sometimes fought naked, painted blue - Collected heads...
 - 4. Aztecs – world would end every 52 yrs. unless gods were strengthened by human sacrifice (a little cannibalism too)
 - 3. Assyria - King Ashurnasirpal covered city gates with human skin – iron weapons!
 - 2. Spartans – Tough – tossed imperfect babies off cliff. All males soldiers – slaves did all other work - law required beating them
 - 1. Mongols - Genghis Khan killed 40 million people! Built wall in Delhi of 90,000 heads...
- Civilizations without God get worse & worse!!**

- Our civilization?
- Getting worse – morals; peace; finances...
- Technology improves – men abuse it!
- God has gifted mankind - incredible advances
- Almost Unlimited potential!
- Consider the tower of Babel...
- Gen.11:6 *The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them..."*
- The greatest need of our generation is not simply advancement... NEED: RENEWAL!
- We need God to re-create in us a desire for him

III. RESTORE

- Ps 51:10 *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.*
- 12 *Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. (NIV)*
- (NKJV) v.12 *“... And uphold me by Your generous Spirit”*
- *“Restore to me...”* – NOT the words of a man who never knew God!
- Have we experienced the JOY of Salvation?

- *“Restore to me the Joy of my salvation”*
- I believe millions of S. Africans could say that!
- Many leaders owe their education to missionaries!
- What is the joy of our salvation?
- Jesus demonstrated: Love; Joy; Relationships; Healing; Deliverance; Teaching; Miracles...
- Jn.14:12 *“I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”*
- Does Jesus tell the Truth or not?
- Can we really believe Jesus wants to do miracles among us, here – today?

- Ezekiel - taken to a valley - shown a vast army..
- One problem - they were all dead! Dry bones!
- Eze 37:3 *He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."*
- 4 *Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!'"*
- So if God could make those bones live, what do we believe He is able to do among us today?

- I'm asking the elders & wives to pray this for those of us who request it:
- Just anoint with oil & pray these words:

"LORD RESTORE"

"LORD HEAL"

"LORD SUPPLY"

"LORD COMFORT"

**Do you believe these bones can live?
If you really believe God can do this today
come forward now**