

Inward Parts

Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts; and in the hidden part thou shalt make to know wisdom. Psalms 51:6

When looking for a used car, the first thing that usually attracts the attention of a shopper is the outward appearance of the vehicle. If there is an absence of rust, scratches, and dents, the potential buyer will then inspect with greater scrutiny. A clean exterior means nothing if the interior is marred and the engine is requiring an overhaul. A serious buyer wants the vehicle to be complete. In like manner the same is true for us as believers. The Lord desires more than just our outward appearance to be clean.

Psalms 51 is the penitential Psalm of King David after his great sin of adultery, and the following deceit that led to the death of Uriah. After being confronted by Nathan the prophet, the weight of the King's actions presses him to conviction and repentance. In his plea for mercy and cleansing, there is a realization for the need to be whole within and without. God desires us to know the truth in the depth of our being. Outward actions and words often are manifestations of the inner depths of man. Jesus said that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh, and out of the heart proceeds a myriad of sins that defile a man. The Pharisees were condemned for outwardly appearing righteous unto men, but within they were full of hypocrisy and iniquity. It is God's desire for us to know His truth and wisdom in our hearts, and that we allow it to guide and control our actions. The more we consume and digest of the Word, the more we will be spiritually nourished and strengthened, and then we will have a heightened sense of awareness to combat temptation. When God's truth and wisdom fills our hearts it then can flow from within to produce more Godlike actions.

May God's desires *for* us become our own desires today!

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