Main Thought – In this penitential psalm (6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 140) David asks God to CLEANSE ME, RESTORE ME, and USE ME.

INTRODUCTION – Although David had pleased the Lord in his lifetime, there was one notable exception – the case of Uriah the Hittite (1 Kings 15:5).

CLEANSE ME (1-7).

- David asked for mercy, love, and compassion (Ex. 34:6-7; 2 Sam. 24:14).
- BLOT OUT my transgressions means that our sins are placed behind God’s back (103:12), removed infinitely from us (Isa. 38:17), and buried in the deepest sea (Micah 7:19).
- WASH ME refers to dirty clothing (Isa. 1:18; 64:6).
- CLEANSE ME means to change your clothes marking a new beginning (Gen. 35:2; 41:14; 45:22; Ex. 19:10, 14) as David did after the incident (2 Sam. 12:20).
- David acknowledged his sin: (1) he had a GUILTY CONSCIENCE (Heb. 10:22); (2) his ultimate sin was not against Uriah or Bathsheba but against God (2 Sam. 12:13); (3) he had ORIGINAL SIN from conception/birth (5; Rom. 5:12).

RESTORE ME (8-12).

- Sin had affected David’s whole body (ears and bones – 32:3-4), heart and spirit – (10), hands (14), lips (13-15).
- David desired RENEWAL and RESTORATION (Gal. 6:1; Mark 1:19).
- But . . . there is always the law of the harvest – we reap what we sow (Gal. 6:7). This was certainly true in David’s life as his child with Bathsheba died and Israel’s enemies now showed contempt toward them (2 Sam. 12:13-14) and his two sons committed similar sins (Amnon and Absalom).
- In the OT the Holy Spirit came upon people temporally for certain tasks as happened to David (1 Sam. 16:13). Today believers receive the permanent indwelling of the Holy Spirit at conversion (Rom. 8:9). However, sin GRIEVES (Eph. 4:30) and QUENCHES (1 Thess. 5:19) the Holy Spirit’s power in our lives.

USE ME (13-19).

- I want to TEACH others (34:11).
- I want to SING (Col. 3:16).
- I want to SURRENDER – not necessarily things (animals, tithes) but first and foremost myself (2 Cor. 8:3-5) – a broken and contrite spirit (1 Sam. 15:22; Isa. 57:15).
- I want to see Zion PROSPER (Prov. 16:20).