

of this prayer, it would appear the second clause should be taken in accord with the first clause, that is, as a Jussive. The verse would then read: "Please cause the joy of your salvation to return to me, and sustain me by (your) willing Spirit."

If David had experienced personal salvation; and if he had known the joy of it (which, according to Galatians 5:22 is due to the work of the Holy Spirit and is always so); and if he had so grieved the Spirit of God that he had temporarily lost that joy; and if he was now praying to be forgiven, cleansed, restored, and renewed in joy and peace; then even without the last half of the verse this could be evidence of a spiritual relationship between the Holy Spirit and David. The addition of the last half of the verse would reinforce this idea and strengthen it.

However, it is to be noted that, in regard to the second clause some versions do not render it as it stands in either the Authorized Version or our own translation. The Revised Standard Version translates the verse: "Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit."¹ The American Standard Version of 1901 translates it: "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with a willing spirit."²

It is to be admitted that these versions have an advantage over the translations of the Authorized Version and our own. In the Authorized Version, the word "thy" in the clause, "uphold me with thy free Spirit;" and in our own translation, the word "your" in the clause, "sustain me by (your) willing Spirit," must be supplied. This difficulty is not suffered by the Revised Standard Version and the American Standard Version. They

¹The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version: The Old Testament, Vol. II (New York: Thomas Nelson and Sons, 1952), p. 1130.

²The Holy Bible, American Standard Version (New York: Thomas Nelson and Sons, 1901), p. 626.