

**CP - 7/30/23**

## **Psalm of Summer - Psalm 51 - Confessing Our Sin**

Recap: Sin is **transgression** (rebellion), **iniquity** (perversity, wickedness), **sin** (failure, missing the mark), and **evil** (morally and ethically bad).

“We have a strange illusion that mere time cancels sin. But mere time does nothing either to the fact or to the guilt of a sin.” - C.S. Lewis

### **1. Confessing our sin begins with conviction. (preface of Psalm)**

- \*Conviction from the Spirit of God
- \*Conviction by the Word of God
- \*Conviction through the people of God
- \*Conviction made David aware that he was guilty, dirty, fallen, and wrong.

### **2. Confessing our sin is agreeing with God in godly sorrow and repentance. (51:1–5)**

- \*We agree with God on what sin is.
- \*We agree with God on who He is.
- \*We agree with God on what we have done.
- \*We agree with God on what we deserve.

#### **\*\*\*Reasons for ineffective repentance**

- \*We are more concerned about the consequences than the action.
- \*We are more concerned about the horizontal effects than the vertical.
- \*We are more concerned about maintaining our self-image and self-righteousness than being right with God and others.
- \*We are more concerned about maintaining control over the situation than surrendering to God and facing the consequences.
- \*We are more concerned with feeling better than dealing with root problem.

### **3. Confessing our sin is a cry for mercy and help. (51:6–10)**

- \*We cry for mercy on the basis of God's character.
- \*We cry for mercy on the basis of Christ's work.
- \*We cry for help because of what we have done. (sins)
- \*We cry for help because of what we are. (sinners)
- \*We believe God's promises to forgive and cleanse us.  
(1 John 1:9, Proverbs 28:13, Psalm 32:5)

\*\*\*Forsake your sin and put it to death!

“And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.” - Jesus, Matthew 18:8–9

“The essence of sin is we human beings substituting ourselves for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for us. We...put ourselves where only God deserves to be; God...puts himself where we deserve to be.” - John Stott

“The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.” - Tim Keller