Psalm 50 • The True Working of God’s Judgment

1. Introduction (Matthew 17:21-23). There is more than one **judgment** before **Final Judgment**. The Old Testament example: First the Northern Kingdom, then 3 deportations and 3 returns of the Southern Kingdom.
2. (v.1-6) This is not Final Judgment but a **judgment of Israel** that occurs before then.
   1. Those being judged here are identified in v.5 as “Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.”
   2. Judgment always begins first with **God’s people**. (1 Peter 4:17)
3. (v.7-15) From His true followers, God does not desire the offerings required **as a result of sin**, but the freewill offerings of an **obedient and loving heart**.
4. (v.16-21) **False believers** embrace God’s Word in speech only.
   1. They may know God’s Word, but they don’t actually **put it into practice**.
   2. Their behavior results in becoming **deceived of the truth**.
5. (v.22-23) The defining characteristic of true believers is that they’re not just obedient, but actively **shun sin**. They are not repeatedly engaged in sacrificing to **cover sin**, but to **worship and praise God** from a yielded, right heart.