Revive us again! – Ps. 51:16 -17

**Focal Truth: A broken hearted sinner is an excellent thing to God**

Do you lack any real feelings about the sin you commit?

Are you trying to gain God’s forgiveness by doing good things for others?

Is there a deep awareness in you that you have sinned greatly against God in your life?

**Observations**

1. **God rejects man’s efforts to save himself from his sin – 51:16**

 *for you do not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it…*

 a. Man cannot justify himself by works of the law

 Rom. 3:20 – by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight

 b. Sinful man seeks self - salvation by reforming his actions

 c. Sinful man seeks self - salvation by doing good things for others

2. **God refuses man’s religious ceremonies performed to save himself**

 **from his sin – 51:16**

 *you are not pleased with burnt offerings*

a. God refuses religious ceremonies done in hypocrisy & unconfessed

 sinfulness

 Jer. 6:20 – your burnt offerings are not acceptable & your sacrifices are not

 pleasing to me

 b. Sinful man believes that a religious act with satisfy his sin before God

 c. Sinful man seeks to be religious without genuine repentance

3. **God delights in the sacrifices of the broken & crushed in heart for sin –**

 **51:17**

 *the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit*

a. The hard hearted refuse to humble themselves to God

 Eph.4:17 -18 – walk in the futility of their minds, darkened in their

 understanding, excluded from the life of God, because of the ignorance

 in them, because of the hardness of their hearts

 b. The hard hearted reject God’s word about their sin

 Zech. 6:12 – they made their hearts like flint so that they could not hear

 The law and the words of the Lord of hosts…

 c. The hard hearted are deceived in their hearts about their relationship to

 God

 Isa. 44:20 – a deceitful heart has turned him aside

 d. The broken & crushed grieve for their sinfulness

 Ps. 38:8 – I am benumbed & badly crushed, I groan because of the agitation

 of my heart

 e. The broken & crushed humble themselves before God

 James 4:10 – humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord

 f. The broken & crushed pray to God in tenderness

 2 Kings 22:19 – because your heart was tender & you humbled yourself

 before the Lord & have wept before me, I truly have heart you…

 Acts 24:16 – I do my best to maintain a blameless conscience before God &

 men

4. **God loves the broken & crushed in heart for sin – 51:17**

 *a broken & contrite heart, O God you will not despise*

 a. God cares for the broken & crushed sinner

 Isa. 66:1,2 – Thus says the Lord, heaven is my throne & earth My footstool

 to this one I will look, to him who is humble & contrite & trembles at my

 word

 b. God revives the broken & crushed sinner

 Isa. 57:15 – thus says the high and lofty one, who lives forever & whose

 name is Holy…I dwell on high with the contrite & lowly in spirit, in order

 to revive the spirit of the lowly, and revive the heart of the contrite

 c. God comforts the broken & crushed sinner

 2 Cor. 7:6 – but God who comforts the depressed or humble, comforted us

 d. God saves the broken & crushed sinner by faith in Jesus Christ

 Lk. 4:18 – He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted

**Things to Remember**

1. Only God can break a hard heart

2. God delights in the broken hearted

2. A tender heart is a spirit filled heart

3. Brokenness in sin brings closeness with God

 Ps 34:18 – The Lord is close to the broken hearted & saves those who are

 crushed in spirit

4. The broken hearted are blessed by God

 Ps. 147:3 – He heals the broken hearted & binds up their wounds

5. Acceptable service to God comes in brokenness before God

**Daily Use**

Don’t be afraid to admit your hard heartedness to God

Remember God is not interested in religious works to gain forgiveness of sin

Come to the Lord Jesus only he can forgive your sin