

"Hollow Gratitude"
Psalm 50

Main Point: Because God's loving-kindness through Christ is lavish and ongoing, so should our Gratitude and Obedience be.

I. The Mighty One Comes... (v. 1-6)

(He doesn't need us, our offerings, or our service. He desires our hearts.)

II. To the Faithful Ones (v. 7-15)

A. Why Do We Complain?

1. We don't realize how bad it could be
2. We forget what we've been given
3. We don't see it as a gift

III. To the Wicked (v. 16-22)

You cannot pretend or hide under rituals. Don't assume you belong to Christ.

IV Leaving a Promise for Both (v. 23)

"The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!"

Application:

1. Remember your story, Christian. Summarize your story of God's redeeming (saving) grace in your life. What things did He save you from? Why does He daily sustain you now?
2. Be aware of your complaints and repent: Is there something you've been complaining about that you now realize has been an instrument of God's faithfulness in your life? Perhaps a spouse or child(ren), singleness, a difficult job or situation, the current political climate? If it is a person you love about whom you're complaining, would you feel suddenly different if God took them away? If it's a trial, can you acknowledge he's refining you in it (Hebrews 12:11)?
3. Turn complaints into prayers. Why is it a sacrifice to offer thanksgiving to God? We're giving up the (perceived) right to be ungrateful.