Ezra 9-10 • Personal & Corporate Responsibility

- 1. (v.1-4) The main issue involved is really that of "<u>sanctification</u>", being set apart exclusively to God's Word and ways alone.
- 2. (v.5-7) When the "innocent" remain silent, they actually become part of the guilty.
- 3. (v.8-9) The grace of God just doesn't **ignore** the situation, but provides a **remedy**:
 - a. The opportunity to make confession.
 - b. The opportunity to build upon His will.
 - c. The opportunity to **be separated to Him**.
- (v.10-15) Personal reconciliation begins with sincere repentance from the heart and acknowledgment of personal sin. It does not seek to be excused, but given over to God's grace.
- 5. (v.10:7-12) All three of the following actions need to be present whether it's a matter of personal or corporate reconciliation:
 - a. Make confession.
 - b. **Do His will**.
 - c. <u>Separate yourselves</u>.
- (v.10:13-14) Obedience to God's Word and ways is essential in addressing sin. We can't create "<u>innocent victims</u>" in the process of making things right.

Points of Application

- 1. If we witness another Believer's sin, we are accountable for our lack of action.
- 2. The process of <u>sanctification</u> isn't exclusively a personal experience; it's for the whole group as well.
- 3. God's grace isn't about overlooking faults or shortcomings, but providing the opportunity to recognize and address them.
- 4. When you have <u>God's Word</u>, you don't need signs or wonders. What has already been revealed is enough. <u>Obedience</u> is the greater "sign".