Psalm 50 • The True Working of God's Judgment

- Introduction (Matthew 17:21-23). There is more than one <u>judgment</u> before <u>Final Judgment</u>. 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 <u>judgment of Israel</u> that occurs before then.
 - a. Those being judged here are identified in v.5 as "Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."
 - b. Judgment always begins first with <u>God's people</u>. (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.
 - a. They may know God's Word, but they don't actually <u>put it</u> <u>into practice</u>.
 - b. Their behavior results in becoming deceived of the truth.
- (v.22-23) The defining characteristic of true believers is that they're not just obedient, but actively <u>shun sin</u>. They are not repeatedly engaged in sacrificing to <u>cover sin</u>, but to <u>worship and praise God</u> from a yielded, right heart.