

1. Attitudes

📖 **Faith** in GOD's love and compassion (Ps. 51:1)

In contrast, Saul: 1 Sam. 15:15

📖 **Penitance** (desire to have his sin rooted out) (Ps. 51:2)

John 3:20

In contrast, Saul: "they were unwilling" to completely obey. (1 Sam. 15:9)

Q: **Which is more important to you: Obeying God... even if it costs you? OR being comfortable, avoiding pain?**

📖 **Humility** (acknowledgement of sin) (Ps. 51:3)

In contrast, Saul: "But I did obey" (1 Sam. 15:20a)

Q: **When confronted with sin, are you quick to get defensive, to rationalize your sin, ("in order to sacrifice them to the Lord), or is your response: "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."**

2. Acknowledgements

† of the real issue - God's **honor** (Ps. 51:4a)

In contrast, Saul: ...a monument in his own honor (1 Sam. 15:12, 30)

Q: **Who is your audience?** Who are you concerned to impress? In whose eyes are you determined to be proved right?

† of God's **justice** in whatever punishment follows (Ps. 51:4b)

In contrast, Saul is in denial.

Prov. 9:8 – Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you.

Prov. 15:31 – He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise.

Q: **How do you respond when God Chastises or disciplines you?**

† of the all pervasiveness of his **sin** – (Ps. 51:5)

In contrast, Saul (1 Sam. 15:30)

† of his utter **helplessness** & dependence upon God - the fear of God (Ps. 51:6-8)

In contrast, Saul

3. Understandings

† of the effect of sin on his **relationship with God** (Ps. 51:9-12)

In contrast, Saul

† of what really **pleases** God (Ps. 51:16-17)

Q: **Do you desire to please God?**

This is what pleases Him:

📖 **To trust** in His love and compassion

📖 **To acknowledge** your sin before Him and turn from it

📖 **To place His honor** above your own

📖 **To accept** God's discipline

📖 **To fear** Him

📖 **To obey** Him

1 Samuel 15:22

A Truth to Remember: God calls David "a man after God's own heart," not because he didn't sin, but because he quickly humbled himself when he did.

A Challenge to Consider: What sin, in your life, are you missing because of wrong attitudes, understandings or refusal to acknowledge?

One thing I heard this morning was...