



WHAT IF IT'S TRUE . . . THAT GOD WANTS YOUR BROKEN HEART

In preparation for the online Bible study on Mar. 26, you may wish to read through the following questions and Bible passages. We will consider these and other topics during our live discussion as well. Preparation is not required.

READ LUKE 18:9-13—THE PARABLE OF THE PHARISEE AND THE TAX COLLECTOR

Consider: What were some of the cultural dynamics surrounding Pharisees and tax collectors?

Consider: Does God need us? Or do we need God? How do the Pharisees seem to answer this question?

READ THE FOLLOWING BIBLE PASSAGES

Consider: What truths do the following Bible passages reveal about sacrifices and their place in our lives as Christians?

Psalm 51:16-19—

Isaiah 1:10-15—

Isaiah 29:13—

READ THE EXCERPTS FROM LUTHER'S WORKS, BELOW

Consider: What does God really want from us?

NOTES

EXCERPTS FROM LUTHER'S WORKS

“It is as if He were to say: 'In vain, do you think that I am placated by your works, for you have your very soul, your senses, and all your life by My gift. If I needed what you have or can do, I would not give it to you. Where does a monk get the ability to fast, to pray, and to do other things that he wants? Certainly from the fact that I give him the will and the ability to do these things. If I give these things, why do you give them back to Me as though I needed and wanted them?'" (Luther's Works, Vol. 12).

“The prophet prefers this worship to sacrifices, and by his teaching he invites us, too, when we want to present God with a most pleasing sacrifice, not to sacrifice a hundred oxen or a burnt offering, but to sing this song: ‘The sacrifice to God is a troubled spirit.’ that is, to believe that our trouble and afflictions please God and to trust in His mercy” (Luther’s Works, Vol. 12).

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