Accepting Blame

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INTRODUCTION

- This morning I want to talk to you about accepting blame. Why is it that we find such a difficult time in just saying I'm wrong?
- He who covers his sin will not prosper. But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.
- The gospel must, if it's to be of any benefit in our lives, the gospel must first convict us.

1 Adam: The Beginning of Making Excuses

Genesis 3:11–12

- At the beginning of sin is the beginning of making excuses about sin.
- The man said, the woman whom you gave, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.
- Usually true confession, true confession of our sins involves very few words.
- Don't bring God into your sin. Just simply say, I've sinned.

2 Aaron: This Calf Came Out

Exodus 32:4; Exodus 32:21–24

- He received the gold from their hands, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool and made a molded calf.
- So they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.
- It's a poor leader who blames those whom he is intending to lead.
- In some sense, we're all spiritual leaders.

3 Saul: The People Spared the Best

1 Samuel 15:15; 1 Samuel 15:21; 1 Samuel 15:24

- For the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen to sacrifice to the Lord your God, and the rest we've utterly destroyed.
- I have sinned, for I've transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.
- Even when he finally gets around to saying, I did it, he says, I did it because they told me to.
- One of the first steps of confession is absolute naked honesty as to what we've done. No obfuscation, no pointing the fingers, no excuses.

4 David: Short and to the Point, I Have Sinned

Psalm 51:1–5

- Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin, for I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

- The distinguishing factor was not that one of them sinned and the other ones didn't. The distinguishing factor was what did he do with his sin?
- He humbly and completely acknowledged it.
- He was saying, I am so full of sin that I've been sinning from the day I was born.

5 Paul: Of Whom I Am Chief

1 Timothy 1:15

- Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. Of whom I am chief.
- One of the greatest dangers that we can have is depersonalizing sin.
- He pointed the finger right at himself and said, That's me.

6 The Prodigal Son: No Longer Worthy

1 John 1:8–9

- Father, I'm no longer worthy to be considered your son.
- True confession demands that we do that. That we figuratively look our father in the eye and say, I'm not worthy. I have sin.
- The scriptures promise us that if we properly deal with our sin, God will deal with them too.
- If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **You've made excuses, and other people have bought into those excuses. But do you realize it's time to look at your Father and say, I'm no longer worthy? I have sinned. Please accept me back.**

MY NOTES