**Connecting with God**

Proverbs 15:8-9

**Proverbs 15:8 (ESV)**The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is acceptable to Him.

**Proverbs 15:9 (ESV)**The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but He loves him who pursues righteousness.

***1. The Pretense God Abhors***

**Proverbs 15:8 (ESV)**The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord …

**Proverbs 15:9 (ESV)**The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord …

**Proverbs 21:3 (ESV)**To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.

**Proverbs 21:27 (ESV)**The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; how much more when he brings it with evil intent.

**Amos 5:21 (ESV)**I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

**Amos 5:22 (ESV)**Even though you offer Me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them.

**Amos 5:23 (ESV)**Take away from Me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

**Amos 5:24 (ESV)**But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

***2. The Prayer God Accepts***

**Proverbs 15:8 (ESV)**The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is acceptable to Him.

**Proverbs 15:29 (ESV)**The Lord is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.

**Proverbs 28:9 (ESV)**If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

***3. The Pursuit God Adores***

**Proverbs 15:9 (ESV)**The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but He loves him who pursues righteousness.

**Micah 6:6 (ESV)  
“**With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

**Micah 6:7 (ESV)**Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

**Micah 6:8 (ESV)**He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

**Psalm 51:17 (ESV)**The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

**John 4:24 (ESV)**God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.