INTRO: The primary use of the word "cover" as used in our text is to conceal or hide. Sin needs to be repented of & confessed, not hidden or concealed.

I. SOME TRY TO COVER THEIR SINS BY RUNNING AWAY OR HIDING.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam & his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. (Gen 3:8).

"Can anyone hide himself in secret places, so I shall not see him?" says the Lord; "Do I not fill heaven & earth," says the Lord. (Jer 23:24).

II. SOME TRY TO COVER THEIR SINS BY IGNORING THEM.

"For My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from My face, nor is their iniquity hidden from My eyes. (Jer 16:17).

How shall we escape it we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, & was confirmed to us by those who heard Him? (Heb. 2:3).
III. SOME TRY TO COVER THEIR SINS BY THE PASSING OF TIME. READ 2 PETER 3:8-10.

IV. SOME TRY TO COVER THEIR SINS BY ACTING RELIGIOUS. READ MATTHEW 23:1-15.

V. SOME TRY TO COVER THEIR SINS BY ACCUSING OTHERS; KEEPING ATTENTION FOCUSED AWAY FROM THEIR OWN SINS. READ MATT 7:1-5.

VI. SOME TRY TO COVER THEIR SINS BY TEACHING FALSE DOCTRINE CONCERNING THOSE SINS.

Situation ethics.

Nevertheless I have a few things against you because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach & beguile my servants to commit sexual immorality & to eat things sacrificed to idols. (Rev 2:20).

Woe to those who call evil good, & good evil; who put darkness for light & light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet & sweet for bitter! (Isa 5:20).

VII. BUT THERE IS A WAY, A PROPER WAY TO "COVER" ONE’S SIN: BRING IT TO GOD FOR FORGIVENESS.
Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. (Psalm 32:1).
Rom. 4:7

A. The "alien" sinner. Acts 2:36-38
B. The erring child of God. Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9

Cox Springs, TX, April 30, 1967
Springhill, LA, August 5, 1973
La Porte, TX, March 14, 1982
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, April 28, 1996
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, December 4, 2005