

Repentance

Purpose: After believing grace, the biblical response is to repent and be baptized for forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:36-38). The Greek word for repentance, metanoia, means “to change ones mind or purpose”.

OQ: How are you? How do feel about having confessed your sins? Is there anything more you want to confess?

C: In this lesson we will see about repentance. Do you know what is the meaning of repentance? It means, “to change ones mind or purpose”. That is what you must do. It is not enough just to confess your sins, but it very important you “to change ones mind or purpose” (repent) of your sins. Many feel repentance is a feeling. They say repentance means you just truly feel bad about your sins. But Bible teaches more than just a feeling. That is what we will study out today about true repentance according to the Bible.

(Luke 13:5 NIV) I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

God gives us only 2 options: 1) Repent or 2) Perish

(Acts 26:20 NIV) First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.

A) Paul preached repentance wherever he went.

B) True Repentance is not just to give up sin but one must turn back to God.

C) God and others will know one have repented by our deeds.[Change in words, thoughts and actions]

Repentance = Turning away from sin & turning to God

(Mat 5:28 NIV) But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

(Mat 5:29 NIV) If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

(Mat 5:30 NIV) And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

A) We have to look at sin as sin. No small or big sin. Even lust is adultery.

B) We have to “cut-off” our sins. You have to hate your sin only then you will change. Is there any sin in your life you still don’t hate?

WARNING: If you have any liking towards any sin still, you may give it up temporarily but will go back to it again!

(2 Cor 7:10 NIV) Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

Generally we always feel bad about sins. Bible says we can have 2 different types of sorrow towards sin.

1) Godly sorrow is that you really feel bad for your sins and it brings true and lasting changes and you never do it again. This leads to salvation.

2) Worldly sorrow is you feel bad for the sins but you don’t change. You do the same sin again. This leads to death (hell)

(Eph 4:22 NIV) You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;

(Eph 4:23 NIV) to be made new in the attitude of your minds;

(Eph 4:24 NIV) and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

(Eph 4:25 NIV) Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

(Eph 4:26 NIV) "In your anger do not sin" : Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry,

(Eph 4:27 NIV) and do not give the devil a foothold.

(Eph 4:28 NIV) He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he

may have something to share with those in need.

(Eph 4:29 NIV) Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

(Eph 4:30 NIV) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

(Eph 4:31 NIV) Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

(Eph 4:32 NIV) Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Scripture specifically says we need to “put-off” old self with its desires and practices.

It is not enough to put-off or stop our old sinful desires and practices. We need to “put-on” new self. In other words we need to replace our old bad habits with new right habits or attitudes. Replace bad thoughts by righteous thoughts[renewing our mind].

Eg: v.25 Put off falsehood or lies and replace it [by putting-on] by speaking the truth.

V.28 Put off stealing[old practice] replace it by getting a job and by sharing with those in need.

V 29 Put off unwholesome talk and replace it with talk that will build and benefit others.

V 31-32 Put off bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, and malice and replace it with [put on] kindness, compassion and forgiveness.

This is how we can change.

Now what do I do after repentance?

(Acts 2:38 NIV) Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

C: First repent and then get baptized, only then your sins will be forgiven, are you ready for this?

Read this Psalms 51:1-17 as a prayer at the end of the study and be broken before God about your sins like David was about his sins.

Extra Repentance Lesson

Luke 13:5

God gives us only 2 options: 1) Repent or 2) Perish just like Heaven or Hell, you are in light or in the darkness. There is no gray area for God. If you don't repent you will perish! Which option you like?

What Repentance is not

1. Not just feeling guilty Acts 24:25

Felix felt guilty but did not repent.

We feel guilty about our sin. This feeling comes before repentance, but is not repentance itself.

2. Not just being sorry for your sin 2 Cor 7:10

Some people are sorry because of the consequences of their sin or because they have been caught.

Many are sorry not for what they have done wrong, but for the penalty they receive for being caught.

3. Not just trying to be a good person Is 64:6

Many people try in their own strength to become a better person and change their way of life.

Any self-effort has a root of self-righteousness in it, which does not acknowledge the need for God and of repentance from sin.

4. Not becoming religious Lk 18:9-14

The Pharisees were extremely religious in behavior and in practice.

They fasted and prayed and attended many religious ceremonies and tithed; yet never repented.

5. Not just knowing the truth James 2:19-20

Having intellectual head-knowledge of truth does not necessarily guarantee that truth has become a living reality in one's life. Believing with the head and believing with the heart are different.[Rom 10:9-10]

What true repentance is

1. Being sorry to God for your sins Ps 51:1-4, Ps 38:8. True repentance is a sorrow not just toward one's self, or toward another person, but first and foremost it is true sorrow towards God.
2. Being truthful about your sins Ps 32:5, 1 John 1:9, James 5:16
3. Renouncing your sin Prov 28:13
4. Hating sin Matt 5:29-30
5. When possible, paying back to others what you owe Luke 19:8

What Repentance involves

1. Turning from sin Gal 5:19-21, Eph 5:5, Zech 1:4
2. Turning from the world 1 John 2:15, James 4:4
3. Turning from yourself 2 Cor 5:15, Lk 14:26
4. Turning to God Acts 20:21, Acts 26:20, Zech 1:3
5. Putting off old-self and putting on new self Eph 4:22-32, Col 3:5-14

Conclusion: Acts 2:38

C: First repent and then get baptized, only then your sins will be forgiven, are you ready for this?

USEFUL SCRIPTURES TO HELP PEOPLE REPENT SPECIFICALLY

These scriptures are to be used to deal with specific areas of repentance. Our goal is to see how our specific sins have hurt others and hurt God. This study will help us to see how our sin has affected our character and challenge us to make those character changes.

1. **People who refuse to repent** - Romans 2:4
2. **People who love the world** - James 4:4.
3. **People who love money** - Luke 16: 13-15, Proverbs 15:27
4. **Difficult to forgive** - Matthew 6:14-15.
5. **Abortion** - Jeremiah 1:5 ; Psalms 139:13-16
6. **Womanizing / Weak-willed women** - 2 Timothy 3:6-7, Ephesians 5:15-17
7. **People who are lazy/Who do not want to work** - 2 Thes 3:10
8. **Sexual abuse of children** - Mark 9:36,42; Luke 17:1-2.
9. **Homosexuality** - 1 Corinthians 6:9
10. **Self righteousness/Looking down on others** - Luke 18:9-14
11. **Pride** - Phil 2:3 , Proverbs 13:10
12. **Deep rooted selfishness** - 2 Timothy 3:1-5
13. **Deep rooted bitterness** - Hebrews 12:15, Colossians 3:5-8
14. **Marriage Issues** - Col 3:18, Ephesians 5:22-31
15. **Deceit** - Proverbs 15:4
16. **Relationship with boy friend / girlfriend** - Ephesians 5:3.