



The Evolution of the Believer - The Power of Repentance Pt 3

Sunday Sermon – 9/22/2024

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Luke 24:44-47 Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." 45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. 46 Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Repentance is a necessary part of the believer's evolution.

Repentance is about discarding the old and embracing a new mental paradigm required for growth, in line with the will and purpose God has for us.

The opportunity to Repent is one of the greatest gifts of grace.

Reconciliation

In the Bible, reconciliation is the process of restoring a relationship between two parties that were previously alienated, or the restoration of a relationship between God and man.

Reconciliation bridges the gap between God and us when forgiveness is granted, and we are relieved of the responsibility to pay for our offense.

Reconciliation can only take place when both parties involved in the offense want to embrace the forgiveness that is offered and restore the relationship.

In the case between us and God, we are the offenders, yet God is always ready to forgive us and reconcile with us.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 (AMP) Then shall the dust [out of which God made man's body] return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return to God Who gave it.

Our Spirit was placed in our natural body as being dead when we are released from God at conception.

Ephesians 2:1 And you He made alive, (*Quicken*) who were dead in trespasses and sins,

God spiritually quickens believers in Christ at the moment of salvation:

Remission of Sins

Remission of Sins grants born-again believers right-standing with God. Remission means that our sin is wiped away, eradicated, abolished, and resolved as though it never happened.

So, if the sin never happened, there is no penalty for an offense that was never committed.

The remission of our sin is a one-time act that wipes away our old life as sinners, and the righteous state of being a God-like new creation is now applied to us.



What is True Repentance

Repenting in the New Testament always means changing the mind, not merely feeling sorry.

The Greek word for repentance is *metanoéō*. Which means biblically to "think differently After receiving the truth and having an encounter with God.

From Remission to Repentance

Remission takes care of our sins, **what** sins we have committed and will commit again; it eradicates, abolishes, and resolves them as though they *never happened*.

Meanwhile, repentance deals with **why** the sin was committed.

For repentance to take place, we have to seek out the **why** that caused what to happen.

Acknowledge the **why** that caused **what** to happen.

Then, turn to the truth (the word of God) to deal with the **why** that caused **what** to happen.

A lot of people just want to deal with what. They acknowledge and confess what they sin they have done to God for forgiveness.

Many don't want to have to deal with the **why**, *because* of the radical change that may have occur for the renewing of the mind.

As our minds are transformed, our responses in the future will be different. Instead of reacting in a sinful way, we will respond in a way that is pleasing to God.

If we don't deal with the **why** then we will be repeat offenders of the **what**.

Once we allow the word and the spirit to deal with the **why**, the **what** can't manifest.

Repentance starts with the Holy Spirit

2 Timothy 2:25-26 (NLT) Gently instruct those who oppose the truth. Perhaps God (the Holy Spirit) will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. 26 Then they will come to their senses and escape from the devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

Notice that Paul tells Timothy to instruct them, but the work of revealing the truth to people is the work of God (the Holy Spirit). "Perhaps God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth".

What is Biblical True Repentance

True repentance is a change of heart and attitude that involves a commitment to a new way of life:

Repentance always begins with acknowledging the wrongs we have done, followed by a desire to change so that we can walk in what is right (godliness) and please God.



As we receive revelation from God's Word and genuinely seek to do right, we open ourselves up to receiving conviction and guidance of truth from the Holy Spirit.

As our divine guide, the Holy Spirit leads us on a journey to the truth, molding our thoughts and beliefs to align with God's purpose and will.

This whole process is about digging deep, looking within ourselves, and committing to growing spiritually.

Through sincere repentance, a deeper connection with God takes place, and we are empowered to serve God on a broader scale. This spiritual alignment not only equips us for impactful service in the Kingdom of God but also enables us to positively influence and uplift the lives of those around us.

The greater the service the greater the reward.

Two Acts of Repentance

The initial step of repentance involves acknowledging that one is a sinner and needs Jesus as their Lord and Savior to attain eternal abundant life.

Acts 2:36-38 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The first act of repentance can only be done once. Once you repent and your sins are remitted, you are saved, and you have eternal Life.

The second act of Repentance allows us to fully take advantage of the "Finished work of Christ," His total redemption plan for humanity.

Repentance is the initial step in the process of renewing our minds.

Renewing the mind starts with accepting and adhering to the truth that God gives us the ability to understand.

Luke 24:45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

Repentance is turning from the wrong and focusing on that which is right and true.

The second act of repentance is a process by which we mature from being "babes" in Christ to mature Sons of God.

How we converse with others and ourselves will tell us how far we have come in the repentance process.

1 Corinthians 13:11 (NLT) When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as a child. But when I grew up, I put away childish things.

In order for us to let go of childish behaviors and attitudes, we need to be open to the process of repentance. This means that we are willing to change our mindset and shift our focus from immature things to mature values and beliefs aligned with God's word.

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Galatians 4:1 Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all.

As this happens, God will release greater spiritual and physical blessings that He has in store for us.

Repentance is more about focusing on the change, the goodness of God, than the wrong we have done.

Romans 2:4 Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?