



The Repentance Process - Pt 3

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Romans 12:2 states: "Do not conform to this world, which is shaped by its superficial customs. Instead, be transformed through the complete renewal of your mind, adopting new ideals and attitudes. This way, you can discern for yourselves what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God—what is truly good, pleasing, and perfect in His sight for you."

This verse emphasizes that as you invite the Holy Spirit to transform and refresh your mind, the divine work that God is orchestrating in your life will become increasingly clearer. Your individual purpose, along with His overarching will and plans for you, cannot be fully grasped by the ordinary mind, shaped as it is by worldly influences and distractions.

Instead, the profound insights and truths about what God has in store for you are unveiled through the enlightening work of the Holy Spirit, transforming and guiding your pattern of things toward a deeper understanding of your unique path and calling.

What is repentance

Repentance is more than just a one-time act; it is a necessary process for God's people to take on the likeness and mind of Christ.

Remember when God first made man, He made him to be in His image after his likeness.

3 John 2 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

Repentance refers to the process of changing one's mind. The Greek term for repentance is *metanoéō*, which literally means "to think differently afterward." Biblically speaking, repentance involves thinking differently after encountering God.

Philippians 2:5 "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus".

Since we are not born with the mind of Christ, this verse alludes to the fact that adopting it is our responsibility.

This involves aligning our thoughts, speech, attitudes, and actions with those of Jesus. It means more than just admiring who Christ is.

Understanding the Repentance Process

Let's look at Romans 12:2 (Amplified Version) 2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs],

The culture and customs of this world are designed to pull us and keep us from the transformative power of the Word and Spirit of God.



Satan has influenced society and created customs that we recognize as worldly. These customs are designed to attract people at every stage of life. They affect everyone. The enemy has created a worldly path that does not align with God's intentions for you, regardless of your life status.

The good news is that we have access to the truth found in God's Word. Through the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit, we can allow this truth to permeate our lives. As a result, we don't have to live by the customs of this world; instead, we can live by the truth and wisdom of God, which creates the faith we need for increase.

We must examine the beliefs and customs of this world against the culture and standards of God's kingdom.

When our ways, customs, attitudes, speech, and thoughts do not align with God's kingdom, the process of repentance needs to begin.

Many people confuse repentance with the asking and embracing of forgiveness from God and godly sorrow.

Let's understand the difference between these three.

Godly sorrow is a profound sense of remorse and regret for sin. This sorrow should inspire a life motivated by the desire to please God. It acknowledges the offense caused by sin against God and others, prompting one to turn away from those actions. This remorse often results from a conviction by the Holy Spirit that leads to seeking God's forgiveness.

Asking God for forgiveness means acknowledging wrongdoing and seeking God's pardon for actions that are seen as offensive to Him. This acknowledgement generally comes from a conviction from the Holy Spirit that brings on Godly sorrow.

Repentance is a profound turning away from sin and turning towards God, motivated by a genuine sorrow for having offended God and a desire to align one's life with His will. It's more than just feeling sorry for wrong actions; it's a transformative process that involves a change of mind, heart, and behavior.

Many people confuse godly sorrow with the process of repentance, but it is actually godly sorrow that initiates genuine repentance. **According to 2 Corinthians 7:10, "For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted..."**

Godly sorrow leads to the process of repentance, which is the maturing of the soul.

The phrase **"not to be regretted"** means that once you experience the results of the repentance process, you will be thankful with no regret that you went through it.

First, we experience the Holy Spirit's conviction of our sins. This conviction leads to a genuine sense of godly sorrow for our wrongdoing. *(Note: Make sure we don't blame others for our wrongdoings, as this can prolong the work of Godly sorrow. Take full responsibility.)*

Once we're aware of our sins, we can turn to God and ask for His forgiveness. After receiving that forgiveness, it's important to allow the Holy Spirit to transform our minds so that we genuinely don't want to commit those sins again. This process embodies true repentance.



The Bible says that we have the responsibility of allowing ourselves to be matured.

Philippians 2:12-13 (NLT) ...Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. 13 For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

God will do the work, but we must allow Him to do it.

If we lack the desire to do what we know God wants us to do, ask Him to give us the desire.

Keep in mind that the whole repentance process is a transformative process where the Holy Spirit works within believers at the will of the individual.

John 7:17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine...

This renewal is not a one-time event but a continuous journey of spiritual growth and transformation. We cannot do it without God.

- **The Holy Spirit's Role:**

The Holy Spirit is the agent of change in mind renewal. He helps believers put off their old, sinful nature (the old mindset set) and put on a new nature, the mind of Christ that reflects God's character.

- **Transformation, Not Just Repair:**

The repentance process is more than just fixing or improving one's existing thoughts. It's a supernatural recreation of the mind, transforming it to align with God's truth and perspective.

Romans 12:2 (AMP)...but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude].

The word renew in Greek is anakaínōsis; it means to renew qualitatively. Therefore, a renewing or renovation that makes a person different than in the past.

The Holy Spirit utilizes the Word of God, which is essential for renewing the mind.

John 14:26-27 - But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

The Word outlines the mindset, attitudes, and behaviors that believers should embody in their daily lives. *This guidance helps us respond appropriately to both challenging and positive situations.*

Romans 12:2 (Amplified Version)...so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, even the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].

What the scripture is saying here is that if we allow our minds to be renewed, we will come to the realization that God's ways and thoughts are the most beneficial for our lives.



God thinks on another Level. **Isaiah 55:8-9 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.**

The biblical perspective on repentance involves a shift from a worldly way of thinking, which ultimately leads to death, to a godly way of thinking that leads to "zoe" life—the kind of life that is abundant and overflowing, as described in **John 10:10**.

Repentance is a transformation from a worldly sinner's mindset to a righteous way of thinking, like God, that develops from the inside out.

As we engage in the process of repentance, we grow and become overcomers of the world, satan and our flesh, positioning ourselves to receive the rewards that God has for us.

Revelation 21:8 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

The process of repentance is necessary for proper spiritual growth. The more we grow spiritually, the more we can handle the gifts and rewards of God.

When we look at the parable of the talents, we see that God gives one, one, one five, and one ten. To the degree we invest in the kingdom, what God has given us, to the degree that we receive a return, or we can say, rewards.