



The Repentance Process - Pt 2

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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.

The Gospel of Repentance was the central message that Jesus preached in His first recorded sermon. **Mark 1:14-15**, "Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.'"

It is important to note that in His first sermon, Jesus emphasized the need to repent and believe before His resurrection.

Jesus urged them not only to believe the word He preached and taught but also to believe the word demonstrated through His lifestyle. *Jesus was the Word in action!*

Jesus said that the "Kingdom of God is at hand." The phrase "**is at hand**" is the Greek word (eggisœ) meaning nearby. To bring near and come near. Referring to the kingdom of God or heaven in this verse, it suggests a reference to space, meaning that something is here.

Jesus was telling the world that He embodied the kingdom of God and He was going to put on display the kingdom in word, action, and power.

In verse 47 of our text, Jesus states, "**and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**"

After His resurrection, Jesus instructed His disciples to preach about repentance and the remission of sins in His name. *He emphasized this teaching now because all our sins, transgressions, and iniquities have been fully paid for, allowing them to be forgiven and remitted. He couldn't fully convey this before going to the cross, as the price for sins had not yet been completely addressed.*

We should give God glory because our sins have been forgiven and totally remitted. Remission means they have been abolished as if they never existed, wiping away all consequences, effects, and penalties from those transgressions.

We take advantage of all of this by trusting in God and having faith in His word.

Notice that not only should repentance and the remission of sin be preached, but they also had to preach faith in who Jesus is, because we cannot preach in His name without having faith in who He is.



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.

The more we take on the likeness and mind of Christ, the more riches of the Kingdom God will be able to trust us with.

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

As we adopt the attitude, behavior, and mindset of Christ, which is soul prosperity, we will see growth and increase in every other area of our lives where repentance is embraced.

Repentance: means to change one's mind in the original Greek, never to merely feel sorry, which is a modern, non-Biblical meaning.

The Greek word is *metanoéo* (*literally means, "to think differently afterward"*). So, repentance means to think differently after having an encounter with God.

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

Since we are not born with it, it is our responsibility to adopt the mind of Christ.

Developing the "Mind of Christ" involves aligning one's thoughts, speech, attitudes, and actions with those of Jesus. *It means more than just admiring who Christ is.*

Developing the mind of Christ takes a conscious effort of the individual who desires it.

*A good starting point for this mental development is listed in **Romans 12:1-2**.*

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT) And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

Godly mind development starts with worship, and worship is all about submitting all that you are and all that you have to Christ Jesus.

The phrase in this verse, **"give your bodies to God,"** refers to our entire being, encompassing our minds, will, emotions, and physical bodies.

Our confession concerning this should be, God, not my will, but let your will be done, not my way, but I want your way, not what I think is true, but I want the true truth of Your Word. This is the type of attitude of the person who truly wants to worship God by submitting all to God.

True worship is submitting all that we have and are to Him because He is worthy. This is not a one-time act, but a lifelong process where we should be making continual progress.

True worship consists of the content of the following verses.



Colossians 3:16-17: 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

There is no true mind renewal without true worship!

In Colossians chapter 3, verses 16 and 17, we learn that it's not only about what we do, but also about the attitude and behavior with which we do it. This mindset is an essential part of our transformation. We should approach everything with gratitude and a thankful heart, being open to both receiving and offering wisdom and guidance when necessary.

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 Kingdom.

The culture and customs of this world differ from those of the kingdom of God. Therefore, we must examine the beliefs and customs of this world against the culture and standards of the kingdom.

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

Let's understand the difference between Godly sorrow, asking for forgiveness and repentance.

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.

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 have confused godly sorrow with the process of repentance. **2 Corinthians 7:10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted...**

Notice this type of sorrow leads to repentance, but it's not total repentance. According to Paul this must happen before repentance takes place.

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



So, we see first the conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit, and after the conviction comes godly sorrow for the sin that we were convicted. Then we ask God to forgive us of this sin. After forgiveness, we want to allow the Holy Spirit to renew our minds to the point where we don't want to do it again, which is real 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 you don't have the desire to do what you know God wants you to do, ask Him.

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. 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 and put on a new nature 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].