

Repentance – An Oft Neglected Command

Acts 17:30-31

Repentance

- Definition
- New Testament Examples
- What Repentance is Not
- What Repentance thus Involves
- Why Won't Some Repent?

Repentance

- Literally “to perceive afterwards”
- Thayer:
 - “to change one’s mind”
 - “...to change one’s mind for the better, heartily to amend with abhorrence one’s past sins”

Repentance

- A command for the alien sinner as well as the Christian
- Acts 2:38
- Acts 8:22-24

The Thessalonians

- Were Taught
 - Acts 17:2
- Believed
 - Acts 17:4
- Repented
 - 1 Thessalonians 1:9

The Church in Corinth

- Were taught
 - 1 Corinthians 5:2, 6-8, 9
- Received the letter
- Believed it, evidenced by their repentance
- Repented
 - 2 Corinthians 7:6-11

Repentance: Motive & Product

- Sorrowed in a godly way
 - 2 Corinthians 7:9-10
- Not sorrow of this world
 - Sorry someone got hurt
 - Sorry you got caught
 - Sorry because others found out
 - Disappointed someone
 - Embarrassment
- Other motivating forces from God
 - Romans 2:4
 - Acts 17:30-31
 - Acts 3:19

Repentance is a change of mind produced by godly sorrow and resulting in a change of conduct

Repentance: Motive & Product

- Repented
 - 2 Corinthians 7:9-10
- Bore fruits worthy of repentance
 - 2 Corinthians 7:11

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Their fruit of repentance

- Diligence – earnestness, haste in correcting the sin committed
- Clearing of yourselves – cleared themselves from involvement in the sin by haste in obeying the command of Paul
- Indignation – displeasure over the previous sin
- Fear – Godly fear, respect for God and His will as taught through the apostles

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Their fruit of repentance

- Vehement desire (longing) – strong desire to do the right thing as directed by Paul
- Zeal – fervency in carrying out Paul's instruction, not apathetic neglect
- Vindication – sin was no longer tolerated but punished
- Proved yourselves to be clear in this matter – by obeying the command of Paul, they were pure and innocent before God now

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Repentance is not...

- Forgetting about the sin, letting time pass
 - 2 Corinthians 12:21
- Conviction
 - 1 Samuel 15:30
- Simply being sorry
 - Matthew 27:3-5
 - Mark 6:26

Repentance is a change of mind produced by godly sorrow and resulting in a change of conduct

Repentance is not...

- Confession of sin
 - James 5:16
- Fear
 - James 2:19
 - Acts 24:25
- Simply a promise to not do it again
 - Exodus 8:8,15
- An outward reformation of action
 - Joel 2:13

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Repentance Involves...

- Truth of God
 - 2 Corinthians 4:4 “the light of the glorious gospel”
 - Hebrews 4:12
- Belief in the truth
- Godly sorry, the conscience & conviction
- REPENTANCE – the change of mind
- Change of conduct
 - Matthew 21:29
 - Acts 26:20
 - Romans 6:17-18
 - Luke 3:10-14
- Restitution
 - Luke 19:8

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Why Won't Some Repent?

- Pride
 - 1 John 2:15
- Willingly ignorant
 - 2 Peter 3:19
- Reject the truth
 - Acts 13:45-46
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:10
- Pleasure in unrighteousness
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:12
- Think there is time left
 - Acts 24:25

- Repentance is not
 - Forgetting about your sin
 - Conviction of your sin
 - Simply being sorry about your sin
 - Confession of your sin
 - Being afraid because of your sin
 - Simply a promise
 - Just an outward reformation of action

- Repentance requires
 - Knowledge of the truth
 - Belief in the truth
 - Godly sorrow & conviction
- Repentance is a change of mind produced by godly sorrow resulting in a change of conduct
- Is there something in your life you need to repent of?