

REPENTANCE – IS IT NECESSARY?

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John the Baptist & Jesus preached repentance.

JOHN THE BAPTIST: There should be fruit of repentance. It will show by the way you live...

JESUS: **Mark 1:14,15** *Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand, **repent and believe in the gospel.**"*

WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

BASIC MEANING:

Change your mind, turn around and face the opposite direction, change of conduct.

(Not an emotion, but a DECISION.)

Spurgeon: **"Repentance is to leave the sins we loved before, to feel sorry enough to quit!"**

WHY IS REPENTANCE NECESSARY?

Romans 3:23 *For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

Romans 6:23 *The wages of sin is death.*

Romans 5:8 *But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

God made Adam and Eve perfectly. When they sinned, their relationship with God was broken. That sin nature is passed down to everyone; we are born with it. **If we are that way when we die, we are permanently, eternally cut off from God. But Jesus took our punishment so that we can be reconciled to God if we repent and put our trust in Him!**

HOW DO WE REPENT?

Repentance by a person who has not yet trusted Jesus for salvation:

- Jesus came to call sinners to repentance.
Acts 2: Peter's sermon. Response of listeners. Peter: Repent and be baptised...
Repentance must come first.
- **Acts 17:30** *The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent.*
(NLT) *God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but **now He commands everyone to repent of their sins and turn to Him.***
- Remorse (being sorry for your sins) alone is not enough. You must do something!
- Prodigal son – **Luke 15**
He hated his situation in the pigsty; decided to do something about it, **then did it!** NB

Repentance in the life of a child of God:

- We are not perfect.
 - Jesus wants a pure, clean bride.
 - Repentance leads to forgiveness.
 - Sin is a roadblock in relationship with the Lord.
 - What is the fruit of your life?
 - Do not compare yourself with others, but with the Word of God.
 - No sin is too big or too small to repent of.
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- **Titus 2:14** *Jesus Christ gave himself for us to **redeem us from all lawlessness** and to **purify** for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.*
 - Do not hide your sin.
Proverbs 28:13 *Whoever conceals his transgression will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.* – Adam and Eve. God sees everything; there's no sense in pretending.

MY TESTIMONY:

Like Paul in Philippians 3:12-14, we should have a heavenly goal we are aiming towards.

Psalm 139:1,2,23,24

²³**Search me**, O God, and **know my heart; Try me**, and know my anxieties;

²⁴And see if there is any wicked way in me, And **lead me** in the way everlasting.