

Repentance

A way of life...more than just a change of mind about sin.

“Some have defined repentance as a change of mind, but when the bible calls for repentance, it calls for more than that. True repentance involves a change of the entire person – mind (intellect), emotions (affections), and will (purpose)... True repentance requires brokenness and contrition. It demands self-loathing and appropriate confession of sin, whereas pride hates these qualities and wages war against them. Tragically, every time you allow pride to keep you from repentance, the difficulty of repentance is increased. It is truly a vicious cycle. Pride keeps you from repentance in the first place. In resisting repentance, your pride is further strengthened. The next call to repentance is even more easily resisted, and so pride triumphs again. The danger is increasingly real that, having long resisted, you never will repent.

Just how much pride does it take to blind a person seriously enough so that they cannot repent? Very little indeed! Be warned, whatever level of pride you tolerate is sufficient to keep your soul under the eternal curse of God’s wrath.” - Richard Owen Roberts

Can pride keep us from the love of God? What can we learn from a Pharisee, a tax collector and a child?

Luke 18:9-17: Justified through repentance.

Luke 3:1-14: Sanctified through repentance.

What is the connection between v.8 and the three examples asking, “what shall we do?”

What shall we do:

1. Crowds _____
2. Tax collectors _____
3. Soldiers _____

What does this scripture teach us about the practicality of repentance? Is repentance to be something in which we continue to bear the fruit of in things we must do and/or not do throughout our salvation? **Revelation 3:2-3**

“The entrance into the Kingdom is through the panging pains of repentance crashing into a man’s respectable goodness; then the Holy Ghost, Who produces these agonies, begins the formation of the Son of God in the life. The new life will manifest itself in conscious repentance and unconscious holiness, never the other way around.” - Oswald Chambers

Luke 7:29-50

What differences do you see between the Pharisee and the “woman in the city who was a sinner”? What might have been their motive in seeking to be with Jesus and might this have affected how Jesus changed their lives differently? Both were with Jesus: one gained repentance and forgiveness and the other ended unrepentant and condemned? Is there a warning for us in this?

From what we read in this portion of scripture, would you say this woman has given us an example of true repentance? She didn’t “say” anything!

Picture yourself in this very situation, what would be some of the “reasonings” you would have to face and how are the difficulties you would have to overcome in this situation the same we might encounter today when God is telling us to repent?

Also, what does this teach us about the importance of a genuine love for Jesus in repentance and the proof exemplified not just by tears but by “loving much”? **Hebrews 6:7-12** – How do we see from this scripture that a repentant life is tied to a fruitful life and a fruitful life is tied to “loving much”?

Do you see a deeper meaning of repentance and a greater need for it to be a daily reality in our life? Is it more than words? Is this quote accurate? “True repentance involves a change of the entire person.”

“A great many people do not pray because they do not feel any sense of need. The sign that the Holy Spirit is in us is that we realize that we are empty, not that we are full. We have a sense of absolute need. A sense of need is one of the greatest blessings because it keeps our life rightly related to Jesus Christ.” –Oswald Chambers

MEMORY VERSE

– Acts 3:19 –

“Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;”