

Lesson 4

3rd Base

Repentance & Faith



- 1. REPENT**
- 2. FAITH**

Lesson 4

3rd Base-Repentance & Faith

9. What must I do to be saved? - What you must do if you want to begin this new relationship with God and go to heaven is:

A. (Repent) – be willing to turn from all known sin in your actions, words, thoughts, and body from now on. (Acts2:38, Acts 17:30, Luke13:3, Luk24:47, 2 Peter 3:9, 2 Chron 7:14)

Repentance

What is repentance? -(GR. metaneo)-to turn around. A 180 degree turn, or an about face.

Websters Collegiate Dictionary- To turn from sin, and to dedicate oneself to the amendment (to change for the better)of one's life; to feel regret or contrition (grieving and penitent for sin or shortcomings); to change one's mind.

Webster's : The action or process of repenting, especially for misdeeds or moral shortcomings.

Strong's concordance: To think differently, to reconsider, feel compunction(anxiety arising from awareness of guilt, distress of mind over an anticipated action or result).

It is a turning from evil ways and **turning to Christ**. The sinner must understand that to turn from sin and to salvation in Christ involves accepting Christ not only as Savior from the penalty of sin, but also as **Lord** of one's life. Thus, repentance involves a change of lords-from the lordship of Satan (Eph2:2) to the lordship of Christ and his Word (Acts26:18).

Repentance is an elementary teaching. (Heb 6:1)

Here is what Jesus considered Repentance! (Matt 12:41, Jonah 3:5-10) It was more than just a change of mind. It was turning from acts that lead to death and turning to God and righteousness.

Who preached Repentance?

First we know repentance is of the utmost value because (2 Pet 3:9) says he wishes that all come to repentance.

1. **John the Baptist-(Matt 3:2)**-Repent for the kingdom of God is near
2. **Christ Jesus** - Not surprisingly, when Christ Jesus began to preach, the first recorded word out of His mouth was “**repent**” (Matthew 4:17). He explicitly stated that his purpose for coming to earth was to call sinners to repentance (Matthew 9:13; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:32) and that his blood was to be shed for the remission of sins (Matthew 26:28). Notably, he commissioned the church that “...**repentance and remission of sins** should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” (**Luke 24:47**). Indeed, his message echoed that of John the Baptist, as He dictated that people would perish if they don’t repent (Luke 13:2-3; John 8:24). A survey of the gospels reveals that sin, as transgression of the law, was central to the evangelistic approach Jesus used, having begun and ended his ministry with repentance on his lips.
3. **The Apostles-** (Mark 6:12)-they went out and preached that people should repent.
 - a. **Peter-** verifying that the post-cross church was to preach a gospel of repentance/remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 3:19), Peter and the apostles proclaimed Jesus as the Savior, granting repentance and the forgiveness of sin (Acts 5:31).
 - b. **Paul-** Per the instruction of the Lord, **Paul** taught repentance and forgiveness of sin (Acts 13: 38; 26:18-20). When Paul warned Felix of forthcoming judgment, Felix was full of fear (Acts 24:24-25).

(Acts 20:21)-I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance.

(Acts 26:20)-First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles also, I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.

Melanchthon says:

But there are many who speak of the forgiveness of sin, but who say little or nothing about repentance. If there is nevertheless no forgiveness of sins without **repentance**, so also forgiveness of sins cannot be understood without repentance. Therefore, if forgiveness of

sins is preached without repentance, it follows that the people imagine they have already received the forgiveness of sins, and thereby they become cocksure and fearless, which is then greater error and sin than all the error that preceded our time .

What happens if we don't preach repentance?

One of the prominent reasons we see so many backslidden, lukewarm, sinful people who are supposedly Christians is they have never heard that they are commanded to repent. (Acts 17:30)

All too often, what actually happens is that everyone simply repeats a prayer. They merely pray what they're told to pray -- and few of them grasp what they're saying. Then most go back to their **heathen** ways (Wilkerson)! As I look at the church today, I wonder: Do we evangelicals insist on a biblical "godly sorrow" as evidence of true repentance? Or are we leading masses of **unrepentant** people into a false peace? Are we wrongly instructing them that all God requires of them is to say, "I believe in you, Jesus"? Have we cut short genuine conviction for sins? Have we jumped in and offered salvation to those who haven't actually repented -- who haven't sorrowed over their trespasses, who haven't seen the exceeding sinfulness of their sins, who have sought faith so they could merely hide their lusts behind it? **Sadly, we cause people to think they've been healed of sin when they never knew they were sick.** We put robes of righteousness on them when they never knew they were naked. We urge them to trust in Christ when they don't even know their need to trust. Such people end up thinking, "It can't hurt to add Jesus to my life" (Wilkerson).

1. We have inoculated sinners.
2. Many people will have a shocking wake up call on Judgment Day (Rev. 2:5, Matt 7:13-14)
3. Our fruit will not remain-(Luke 8:12-14)

What are the results when sinner's repent?

1. Remission of sins and they can be filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38)
2. All the Angels rejoice-(Luk15:7)
3. Salvation comes -(Luke 19:8)
4. They will be blessed(Act 3:26)
5. There will be times of refreshing(Acts3:19)
6. We will have fruit that will remain-(Luke 8:15)

True Repentance Produces Fruit

1. **Matt 3:8-10**- John the Baptist
2. **Acts 26:20** – the Apostle Paul
3. **Acts 19:17-20**- What does real repentance look like?
4. **Luke 19:8** – Another example of true repentance.

Is this our responsibility or is it up to God?

1. **1 Peter 2:1**- Rid yourselves
2. **Col 3: 5-10**- Rid yourselves

B. (Faith)- place your trust in Jesus' death and resurrection as the payment for you sin. (Rom10:9-13, Mark 1:14)

- Jesus' blood was the only acceptable payment for our sin
- transferring our trust from our own works to His grace (Eph2:8) is more than agreeing with the facts that Jesus was alive, did miracles, and rose from the dead. We must appropriate those facts as our payment for our sin. (Matt 16:16)

Saving faith is when we make a vow of surrender and commitment to our bridegroom, the Lord Jesus Christ. Just like newlyweds at the altar, an exchange of vows is made, resulting in a mutual lifelong commitment. That is saving faith.

John 3:16- For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever _____ in Him, will not perish but we have eternal life.

Again, biblical believing is more than just agreeing with the facts, it is relying in, trusting in, and clinging to someone or something. Just like the famous Niagara Falls tightrope walker, who said to the cheering crowd "Who believes that I can walk across the Falls on the tightrope with a wheel barrel?" The crowd reacted in a peal of enthusiasm declaring emphatically that they *believed*. The entertainer than poignantly said, "If you believe, then be the first to get into the wheel barrel."

Biblical faith is the commitment of the bride of Christ(you) to marry and be faithful to our groom(Jesus) without committing spiritual adultery. (James 4:4)

10. Call for Commitment-

What do you want to do about your sin problem?

Are you ready to turn from your sin, trust in Jesus, and obey Him from now on?

- 2 Corinthians 6:2 says, “now is the day of salvation.”
- Hebrews 3:7 says, “_____ if you hear His voice do not harden your hearts.”
- Many places in the scriptures it says that they reasoned, pleaded, and warned people to repent and voluntarily place their trust in Christ. (Acts19:8, Acts17:2, 17, Acts2:40). If you saw a blind man walking into the street with impending danger, we would emphatically do what we could to help them. How much more with the eternal consequences at stake.
- Do not think that you have to pick fruit before it’s ripe by jamming someone into a muttered prayer. Remember if they haven’t believed with their _____ and aren’t _____, then a mimicked prayer will only give them a false sense of assurance and do more damage than good.
(1 Cor 3:6)(**Read this scripture**)
- However it is harvest time. Jesus in John 4:35 says, “Don’t say four more months then the harvest. I tell you open your eyes and look into the fields! They are ripe for harvest.
- Once you have probed meticulously like a good _____ and placed all their sin in the open, when you get done they should feel that if they don’t repent and believe, it’s like picking all this garbage back up and walking around with it. Give them an opportunity but let them make the decision. Choose this day whom you will serve!

11. Conversion- if they are ready to turn to God instruct them of these 2 things:

- a. **(Repent)**-turn, run from, and drop all known sin in your life and follow Jesus Christ.
- b. **(Faith)**-place your trust in Jesus' death and resurrection as the payment for your sin. Tell God and the devil that Jesus is now your boss (Lord).
(Make vows and get married to Jesus)

To round the bases and head towards home plate, you must touch third base which is repentance and faith!

Lesson 4 Homework

DONE

- 1. Listen to Hell's Best Kept Secret**
- 2. Listen to Citytaker Gospel Presentation**
- 3. Read Hell's Best Kept Secret**
- 4. Pray over your Target List**
- 5. Memorize the Citytaker Witnessing Outline**
- 6. Hand out 5 tracts**
- 7. Call Citytaker Partner**