

The Apostles' Doctrine Series

Lesson #2

Repentance

What Is Apostles' Doctrine?

Acts 2:42-43 & 46-47 (KJV); Acts 2:41-42 (KJV)

Luke 13:3 (KJV) "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Acts 2:38 (KJV) "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

I. Repentance Defined

- ❖ According to the Webster's Dictionary, to _____ means "to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one's life; to feel regret or contrition; to change one's mind."
- ❖ The Greek word is _____, which literally means "to perceive afterwards" and "hence signifies to change one's mind or purpose."
- ❖ In the New Testament, this word always indicates a _____ for the better.
- ❖ Many theologians list three necessary aspects of repentance: an _____ change (change of views), an _____ change (change of feelings), and a _____ change (voluntary change of purpose). (Mark 12:30)
- ❖ One of the fundamental doctrines of the church is "_____ from _____"

Heb 6:1 (KJV) "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God."

- ❖ In the context of biblical preaching, repentance is a turn from _____ and a turn to _____.
- ❖ Repentance is the first act of faith, and it includes several important elements: _____ of sin, _____ of sin, _____ for sin, and a decision to _____ sin.

II. _____ of Sin

- ❖ Before someone can repent from sin he must first realize he is a _____. Jesus said, "...I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." (Mark 2:17; Luke 5:23 KJV)

III. _____ of Sin

- ❖ Once someone realizes he is indeed a sinner he must _____ it to God. God already knows everything, but He requires honest _____ to self and to Him.

Prov 28:13 (KJV) "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."

- ❖ We confess sins directly to _____, for He is the only One who can forgive us of our sins. (Isa 43:25; Mark 2:7)
- ❖ It is appropriate for someone to confess his _____ openly (Acts 19:18).
- ❖ Also there are times to confess to _____, such as when we seek prayer on our behalf or when we have wronged someone and seek his forgiveness. (Luke 17:3-4; James 5:16)
- ❖ The essence of confession is _____ to _____ and to _____ that one is a sinner, asking God for forgiveness, and asking God for help to overcome sin in the future.

IV. _____ for Sin

- ❖ With confession, there must be _____, which is a genuine sorrow for sins committed (Psalm 51:17).
- ❖ The sinner must feel in himself a taste of God's _____, not just a human sorrow or regret. (2 Cor. 7:10)
- ❖ Many people are sorry for their sins but have not genuinely _____.
- ❖ True repentance stems from _____ sorrow, which will cause a person to be _____ for his sins, decide to _____ his sinful lifestyle, and have no regrets about the change.

V. Decision to _____ Sin

- ❖ Proverbs 28:13 says we must both confess and forsake sin in order to obtain mercy.
- ❖ Repentance is more than _____ for sins; it also includes a determination to _____ about those sins.
- ❖ _____ repentance causes an actual change in one's _____.

VI. Restitution

- ❖ As part of forsaking sin, the truly repentant person will seek to _____ the impact of his past sins upon others to the extent possible. This is called _____. (Luke 19:8; Mat 5:23-24)
- ❖ God's plan of forgiveness does not let man _____ to _____ the earthly benefits of his sin without restitution, nor does it eliminate the need to seek _____ from someone he has _____.

VII. Repentance and _____

- ❖ Repentance will affect the _____ side of man, since it includes godly sorrow and remorse. It will usually bring tears and other physical demonstrations of this emotion.
 - ◆ But a show of emotion cannot _____ for repentance.

VIII. Examples of Repentance

- ❖ The parable of the _____ illustrates all the elements of repentance (*Luke 15:11-32*).
- ❖ Another parable shows the proper attitude in repenting in _____ *18:9-14*.
- ❖ David's prayer after his adultery with Bathsheba is an example for a child of God who has sinned and the spirit of his prayer is characteristic of all true repentance (*Psa. 51:1-12*).

IX. The Source of Repentance

- ❖ Repentance is part of salvation, so the opportunity and ability to repent come from God's _____. The _____ of God leads men to repentance (*Romans 2:4*).
- ❖ Repentance unto life is a _____ God provides (*Acts 11:18; 2 Timothy 2:25*). God alone can give the sorrow that brings repentance (*2 Corinthians 7:10*).
- ❖ Repentance does not earn salvation, but it qualifies one for, and begins the work of, salvation. Repentance, then, comes by God's _____ through man's _____.
- ❖ The _____ of _____ is absolutely necessary to lead men to repentance (*John 16:8*).
- ❖ The Word of God has _____ to bring men to repentance as the Spirit applies it to hearts.
- ❖ Repentance comes as a response to the drawing, convicting power of God's _____, to the hearing of God's _____, and to the impulse of an awakening faith in God.
- ❖ From God's point of view, it is a _____ to enable man to be saved; from man's point of view it is his first voluntary _____ of faith in God.

X. The Command to Repent

- ❖ Repentance is absolutely necessary for salvation; the Bible commands everyone to repent.
 - ◆ When Adam sinned, God questioned him and expected a confession (*Gen. 3:9-13*).
 - ◆ In Noah's day, God destroyed all but eight souls because mankind would not repent.
 - ◆ He spared Nineveh only because they repented in response to Jonah's preaching.
 - ◆ In Ezekiel, God entreated Israel to repent (*Ezekiel 18:30-32; 33:11*)
 - ◆ John the Baptist preached repentance (*Matthew 3:1-11; Mark 1:4-5; Luke 3:3-9*)
 - ◆ So did Jesus (*Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:15; Luke 13:3, 5*).
 - ◆ Jesus sent His disciples to preach repentance in *Mark 6:12*,
 - ◆ Before His ascension He commissioned them to preach repentance (*Luke 24:47*).

- ◆ Peter preached repentance (*Acts 2:38; 3:19*).
- ◆ Paul preached it (*Acts 26:20, Acts 17:30*).

XI. What Happens at Repentance?

- ❖ At the moment of repentance, man begins to let God _____ in his life. Man decides to turn away from _____ to God, and he allows _____ to turn to him.
- ❖ As part of the turn from sin, God enables man to break away from sinful habits and desires.
- ❖ As part of the turn to God, God allows man to start a _____ with Him.
- ❖ So repentance qualifies a person for _____ and the _____ of the Holy _____.

XII. Repentance For The Christian After Salvation

- ❖ If we sin after the new birth, we still have an _____ of forgiveness by confession of sin to Christ.

1 John 1:9 (KJV) "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 2:1 (KJV) "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:"

- ❖ There is no need to be baptized again, because there is only one baptism and it is effective for all sins repented of, whether committed before or after baptism.
- ❖ There is no _____ to God's forgiveness in this life as long as we genuinely repent.
 - ◆ God expects us to forgive the truly repentant without limit, and He will do no less for us (*Matthew 18:21-22; Luke 17:3-4*).
 - ◆ The important thing is that we sincerely regret our sin and honestly determine to do better with God's help.
 - ◆ Of course, the first principle for a born-again believer is, "Do not sin" (*1 John 2:1*).
 - ◆ If we do sin, we should confess it, obtain forgiveness, and accept no condemnation (*Romans 8:1*).
- ❖ We should not always need to repent of the _____ things since the Spirit gives strength to overcome.
 - ◆ Repentance is a _____ doctrine, but we should not have to stay in this foundational stage all the time.

Heb 6:1 (NIV) "Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God,"

- ❖ Repentance is always available to a Christian, but at some point, he should mature to where the need to repent from sin becomes the _____ rather than the _____.