

Repentance

"Gospel repentance is not a little hanging down of the head. It's a working of the heart until your sin becomes more odious to you than any punishment for it." **Richard Sibbes**

Luke 24:46-47

- The Gospel and repentance are intertwined.

Matthew 3:1-2

Matthew 4:17

Unfortunately repentance is now sometimes taken out of the Gospel message.

(Wrong interpretation) "Is repentance a condition for receiving eternal life? Yes, if it is repentance or changing one's mind about Jesus Christ. No, if it means to be sorry for sin or even to resolve to turn from sin, for these things *will not save*."

John C Ryrie

(Correct interpretation) "For to pretend that men may live habitually sinful lives without any attempt by the Spirit to mortify sin in them, nor with any desire for repentance, is to deny the Christian religion."

John Owen

(Correct interpretation) "You have nothing to do but to save souls. Therefore spend and be spent in this work. And go not only to those that need you, but to those that need you most. It is not your business to preach so many times, and to take care of this or that society; but to save as many souls as you can; to bring as many sinners as you possibly can to repentance."

John Wesley

Mark 6.12

"Another impediment of repentance, is presuming thoughts of God's mercy. Many suck poison from this sweet flower. Christ who came into the world to save sinners (1 Tim. 1:15) is coincidentally the occasion of many a man's perishing. Though to the elect he is the "bread of life"—yet to the wicked he is "a stone of stumbling" (1 Pet. 2:8). To some his blood is sweet wine—to others the water of Marah. Some are softened by this Sun of righteousness (Mal. 4:2), others are hardened. "Oh," says one, "Christ has died; he has done all for me;

therefore I may sit still and do nothing.” Thus they suck death from the tree of life; and perish by the Savior.”

Thomas Watson

Mark 1:15 (Repentance is demanded before believing the Gospel).

Steps of Repentance

1. Sight of sin (knowledge of sin)
2. Sorrow for sin (Godly sorrow)
3. Confession of sin (1st John 1:9)
4. Shame for sin (Ezekiel 43:10)
5. Hatred for sin (Psalm 119:104) (Proverbs 8:13)
6. Turning from sin completely.

Luke 13:1-5

Acts 17:30 (We are commanded)

Ezekiel 14:6

Romans 7:15/18 -

“(1) Hatred is universal in respect of the faculties. That is, there is a dislike of sin not only in the judgment—but in the will and affections. Many a one is convinced that sin is a vile thing, and in his judgment has an aversion to it—yet he tastes sweetness in it—and has a secret delight in it. Here is a disliking of sin in the judgment and an embracing of it in the affections! Whereas in true repentance, the hatred of sin is in all the faculties, not only in the intellectual part—but chiefly in the will: “I do the very thing I hate!” (Romans 7:15). Paul was not free from sin—yet his will was against it.”

(Intellectual repentance is not enough)

Acts 11:18 (Repentance is a gift, God grants repentance - when convicted pray to Jesus for the gift of repentance)

"Repentance grows as faith grows. Do not make any mistake about it; repentance is not a thing of days and weeks, a temporary penance to be got over as fast as possible! No; it is the grace of a lifetime, like faith itself. God's little children repent, and so do the young men and the fathers. Repentance is the inseparable companion of faith."

Charles Spurgeon

"All of a Christian's life is one of repentance."

Martin Luther

"Repentance is more than just sorrow for the past; repentance is a change of mind and heart, a new life of denying self and serving the Savior as king in self's place."

J. I. Packer

Ephesians 2:8-9