



THE
TRUTH ABOUT
REPENTANCE

Acts 17:30-31



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³⁰ Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,
³¹ because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Repentance Is Essential

- Jesus emphasized the essential nature of repentance
 - **Luke 13:1-3**
- Foundational to preaching from the beginning of the Gospel
 - **Luke 24:47**
 - **Acts 2:38**
 - **Acts 3:19**

THE TRUTH ABOUT REPENTANCE

Repentance Is *Not*

- Just recognition of sin
 - Felix terrified by recognition (Acts 24:25)
- Just acknowledgement of sin
 - Judas admitted his sin (Matt. 27:3-4)
- Just a change of conduct
 - Mob ceased beating Paul (Acts 21:32)
- None of these actions by itself constitutes biblical repentance

THE TRUTH ABOUT REPENTANCE

Being Led To Repentance

Understanding nature of sin:

- Grieves God (Gen. 6:6; Matt. 23:37)
- It is shameful to God (Heb. 10:26-29 → Ezra 9:6)

Realizing the “goodness of God”

- Romans 2:4; 5:6-8

When we truly repent, we:

- Never fail to fully admit & be ashamed of sin
- Never recall past sins with longing or joy
- Never think lightly of penalty paid for sin

Repentance Involves Change

- Involves a change, but not just:
 - *Intellectual* - that is Faith (Heb. 11:6)
 - *Relationship* - that is Baptism (Gal. 3:27)
 - *Emotional* - that is reaction to guilt of sin (Ezra 10:1)
- Repentance is a change of mind which is accompanied by an amended life
 - Luke 3:7-14; Matthew 21:28-31

2 Corinthians 7:10-11

¹⁰ For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. ¹¹ For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

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Repentance & 2 Cor. 7

- *Godly sorrow* precedes repentance
 - due to recognition of our sin against God
- Causes “**diligence**”
- Causes “**clearing**”
- Causes “**indignation**”
- Causes “**fear**”
- Causes “**vehement desire**”
- Causes “**zeal**”
- Causes “**vindication**”

THE TRUTH ABOUT
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Fruit Shown with Repentance

“... that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance” (Acts 26:20)

For those who never obeyed the gospel...

- Repentance followed by baptism to seek forgiveness of sins turned from (Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21)

For erring children who have turned away...

- Repentance followed by confession of sins & prayer to seek forgiveness then turn from sin (Acts 8:22; 1 Jn. 1:9)

True repentance is always shown by action

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