

Solid Rock Christian Church Manassas, Virginia

Bible Study - July 6, 2023

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**Title: Soteriology - The Doctrine of Salvation - Part III
"Faith and Repentance"**

I. Introduction

A. In this lesson we will continue our studies in the series on Soteriology - The Doctrine of Salvation, and discuss Faith and Repentance.

B. In our previous lesson, we discussed faith and just how essential it is to receive God's wonderful gift of Salvation. Repentance is another very, very important part of receiving Salvation and repentance and faith (i.e., belief) are bound together in one piece (not temporally successive acts).

C. My prayer is that this lesson, as well as each of the previous lessons will be a blessing to the body of Christ, and assist you as you continue to grow in your Christian walk. Additionally, my prayer is that you will be strengthened as you share the Good News of the Gospel with others.

II. Definition of Repentance

A. First, the root word **Repent**. **Repent** is the Greek word metanoeo (pronounced met-a-knoi-ya) and it means to turn away from an existing object of trust (e.g., oneself).

B. Biblical Repentance involves a turning from sin to God (1 Thess.

1:9), which results in righteous living. Repentance is to feel such contrition (i.e., to feel remorseful) or dissatisfaction over some past action or intention that results in a change of one's ways. Repentance is also to be penitent (i.e., showing sorrow and regret for having done wrong) and to change one's mind for the better.

C. Basically, repentance is a change of mind that results in a change of direction because of regret over some past action or intention.

Points:

- 1) To repent is to turn from disobedience and to become obedient.
- 2) To repent from lying is to become truthful.
- 3) In salvation, to repent from unbelief is to believe the gospel.

III. How the Mind Changes or Repents

A. **Intellectually**, repentance is a change of view toward sin. "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 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." (Acts 2:37, 38).

B. **Emotionally**, repentance is a genuine sorrow for sin and a desire for pardon.

C. **Volitionally**, repentance is a change of will. "And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son." (Luke 15:21).

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

IV. What Repentance is Not

A. Repentance is not synonymous with knowing that you are a sinner.

1. The Scripture is full of examples of men who said, "I have sinned" but did not genuinely repent of their sins:

- a. Balaam (Num. 22:34)
- b. Pharaoh (Ex. 10:16)
- c. Saul (1 Sam. 15:30)
- d. Judas (Matt. 27:4)

B. Repentance is not simply confession.

1. An individual may often feel sorry for something he or she has done without repenting. Perhaps they are sorry they were caught.

2. Given the chance, they will do the same thing again. Some find it soothes their conscience if they confess to another human being on a weekly basis. This is **not** repentance!

C. **Repentance and salvation are not the same.**

"Repent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:15) shows that **believe** and **repent** are not one and the same.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:17) shows that **repent** and **conversion** are not the same.

Point: Repentance and faith are not two sides of the same coin.

"That they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance" (Acts 26:20) shows that *repent* and *turn to God* are not the same.

Comment: Remember the definition of Biblical Repentance which involves a turning from sin to God (1 Thess. 1:9), and results in righteous living.

1. Judas's repentance did not lead to salvation. "Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders."

(Matt. 27:3)

Comment: We do not find in Scripture that Judas displayed genuine biblical repentance.

D. Repentance does not apply only to salvation. Repentance is used several ways in Scripture.

1. Regarding human relationships:

"If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him." (Luke 17:3)

2. Regarding believers:

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore and repent." (Rev. 3:19)

3. Regarding evangelist:

- a. John the Baptist, Jesus, and the early disciples preached **repentance** to prepare people to believe in Christ Jesus.
- b. It brought the people to the realization that they had sinned against a Holy God and needed God's forgiveness.
- c. Preaching on repentance helps break down pride, the arrogance, willfulness, and hardness of the heart.

Points:

- 1) When the sinner realizes his or her need of a Savior, they are then in a condition to accept Christ as Savior.
- 2) True biblical repentance is at the very heart of and proves one's salvation.
- 3) Unbelievers repent of their sins initially when they are saved, and then as believers, repent of their sins continually to keep the joy and blessings of their relationship with God.

V. Summary

A. Some whose hearts are not hardened by sin (particularly children) easily realize their need of a Savior, and therefore when they hear about Christ's death for them, they readily receive Christ as Savior.

B. Many of the great servants of God were saved in childhood. Charles Spurgeon, on hearing a deacon preach "Look unto me, and be ye saved," (Isa. 45:22) simply looked on Christ by faith and was saved.

C. What has been your salvation experience? I can recall my own experience in November 1964 when the Lord saved my soul.

D. For those who have not repented and asked God for the forgiveness of their sins to receive His wonderful gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, **please, do it now!** Then, place all of your faith, hope, and trust in Him who will never leave you nor forsake you!

It is once again interactive time. Please complete the biblical passages that follow by filling in the blank spaces. Each passage has been taken from the King James Version (KJV) of the Holy Bible.

"He that _____ on him is not _____: but he that _____ not is condemned _____, because he hath not _____ in the _____ of the only _____ Son of God."

[John 3:18]

"Have _____ upon me, O God, according to thy _____: according unto the _____ of thy tender _____ blot out my _____. Wash me thoroughly from mine _____, and cleanse me from my _____. For I _____ my _____: and my sin is ever before me."

[Psalm 51:1-3]

"For godly _____ worketh _____ to salvation not to be repented of: but the _____ of the world worketh _____."

[2 Corinthians 7:10]

"If my _____, which are called by my _____, shall _____ themselves, and _____, and _____ my face, and _____ from their _____ ways; then will I _____ from heaven, and will _____ their sin, and will _____ their land."

[2 Chronicles 7:14]

"_____ not your _____, as in the _____, in the day of _____ in the wilderness: when your fathers tempted me, _____ me, and saw my works _____ years."

[Hebrews 3:8-9]

"And that, _____ the time, that now it is _____ time to _____ out of sleep: for now is our _____ nearer than when we _____."

[Romans 13:11] in

I pray that this lesson has been a blessing to you.

In the Master's Service,
Pastor Austin