True Repentance:

Is It Just Remorse, Regret, and Sorrow for Sins?

Our text is found in two places: The first is Hebrews 6:1-2, “*Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, and of instruction about washings, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.*” (Hebrews 6:1–2, ESV)

The second is 2 Corinthians 7:10: “*For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.*” (2 Corinthians 7:10, ESV)

• Repentance is one of the “principles of the doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_.” True repentance most assuredly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a genuine, sincere sorrow for our sins. But there is more to biblical repentance

• If our eternal destiny \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on repentance, it is vitally important that we understand what biblical repentance is.

Definition: repentance involves “…a change of \_\_\_\_ with regard to sin, a sorrow for sin which is primarily intellectual in nature … [**and**] a change of \_\_\_\_, a sorrow that leads to turning away from sin.

REPENTANCE IS CHANGE:

(1) OF MIND AND \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ AND (2) OF ACTION/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

• Sincere repentance involves “\_\_\_\_\_ sorrow.” Isaiah 59:2

• Bring forth fruit that is consistent with repentance [let your lives \_\_\_\_\_ your change of heart]” (Matthew 3:7-8, Amplified Bible).

• Repentance that is genuine is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and proven by changed actions. You resolve to turn from sin and change your ways. This will be demonstrated by transformed conduct consistent with a changed heart towards God and \_\_\_\_ from sin.

\_\_\_ SHOULD WE REPENT? —

(Mark 1:14–15) • Jesus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it. That alone is sufficient reason.

• Without repentance, we would die in our unforgiven state of \_\_.

• Repentance helps us be “converted.” Repentance is an essential ingredient to a changed, Christ-centered life.

IS REPENTANCE WORDS ONLY? — \_\_\_!

IS REPENTANCE ONLY FOR THE LOST (TO GET SAVED)? \_\_!

• Jesus commanded \_\_\_\_\_\_ people to repent! To the believers in four other churches in Revelation, Jesus commanded, “Repent!” (Revelation 2:5; 2:16; 2:21-22; 3:3)

The apostle Peter told this [apparently] Christian man that he needed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and pray to God for forgiveness (22).

SOME CLOSING Applications —

“*Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them will obtain mercy.*” (Proverbs 28:13, ESV)

• Repentance is a good thing; it is not to be \_\_\_\_\_\_. What is to be feared is the failure to repent — such a person “shall \_\_ prosper.” By contrast, the one who (1) confesses his sins to God and (2) forsakes those sins shall receive God’s mercy!

• Repentance causes \_\_\_ in heaven! Don’t think of repenting of sin as some dark, gloomy action. No, but rather it is something that restores the sinner to a right relationship with God and triggers celebration among the angels of God.

“*Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*” (Luke 15:10) “*Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.*” (Luke 15:7)

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