

Revival & Reformation

Lesson 6 – Confession and Repentance: The Conditions of Revival

1. Pull out your smart phone
2. Send a text to 99000 with a message saying “getapp”
3. You will receive a link to a website that includes a description of the app and where to go to install it.

Proverbs 28:13, NKJV “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy”.

John and Jesus First Called People To Repent

Mat 3:1, 2 *In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"*

Matthew 4:17 *From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."*

***Luke 5:32** *"I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."*

Repent = 1. Remorse regret or contrition for past conduct or sin. 2. To feel such regret so as to change one's mind regarding it: as in repenting of intemperate behavior. 3. To make a change for the better as a result of remorse or contrition for one's sins.

Repentance: God's Gift

Acts 5:30–32 (NKJV) *The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. ³¹ Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."*

“As the disciples waited for the fulfillment of the promise, they humbled their hearts in true repentance and confessed their unbelief. As they called to remembrance the words that Christ had spoken to them before His death they understood more fully their meaning. . . . As they meditated upon His pure, holy life they felt that no toil would be too hard, no sacrifice too great, if only they could bear witness in their lives to the loveliness of Christ's character.”-EGW- AA, p. 36.

- God creates out of nothing. Therefore until a man is nothing, God can make nothing out of him. - Martin Luther 1483–1546

Acts 17:30–31 (NKJV) 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."*

Luke 3:8 (NKJV) *Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.*

Acts 26:19–20 (NKJV) *"Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance."*

How important is it for us to repent?

***Acts 2:38 (NKJV)** *Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

2 Peter 3:9 *...not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

Luke 13:5 *"I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."*

Luther would roll back and forth in his cell saying My sin my sin.

True Repentance Defined

2 Corinthians 7:9–12 (NKJV) *Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. 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. ¹² Therefore, although I wrote to you, I did not do it for the sake of him who had done the wrong, nor for the sake of him who suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear to you.*

Hebrews 12:1–2 (NKJV) *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, ...*

***Ezekiel 14:6 (NKJV)** “Therefore say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord God: “Repent, turn away from your idols, and turn your faces away from all your abominations.

Ezekiel 18:30–32 (NKJV) “Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways,” says the Lord God. “Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?³² For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,” says the Lord God. “Therefore turn and live!”

True Repentance and Confession

Leviticus 5:5 (NKJV) ‘And it shall be, when he is guilty in any of these matters, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that thing;

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

Proverbs 28:13 (NKJV)¹³ He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

“True confession is always of a specific character, and acknowledges particular sins. They may be of such a nature as to be brought before God only; they may be wrongs that should be confessed to individuals who have suffered injury through them; or they may be of a public character, and should then be as publicly confessed. But all confession should be definite and to the point, acknowledging the very sins of which you are guilty.”-E.G.W, *Steps to Christ*, p. 38.

True and False Repentance Contrasted

Isaiah 1:16–20 Wash you...

Matthew 27:3–4 Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” And they said, “What is that to us? You see to it!”

Exodus 9:27–28 (NKJV) And Pharaoh sent and called for Moses and Aaron, and said to them, “I have sinned this time. The Lord is righteous, and my people and I are wicked.²⁸ Entreat the Lord, that there may be no more mighty thundering and hail, for it is enough. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer.”

Confession’s Healing Power

Psalm 32:1–5 (NKJV)¹ Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, Whose sin is covered.² Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impute iniquity, And in whose spirit there is no deceit.³ When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long.⁴ For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah⁵ I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

One ray of the glory of God, one gleam of the purity of Christ, penetrating the soul, makes every spot of defilement painfully distinct, and lays bare the deformity and defects of the human character. It makes apparent the unhallowed desires, the infidelity of the heart, the impurity of the lips. The sinner’s acts of disloyalty in making void the law of God, are exposed to his sight, and his spirit is stricken and afflicted under the searching influence of the Spirit of God. He loathes himself as he views the pure, spotless character of Christ. {SC 29.1}

2 Sam 12:7 Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Psa 51:1-17

Repent = Hebrew, nacham, to sigh, breathe strongly, to be sorry, repent. Greek, *metanoio* Feeling regret, think differently, turning from sin to God.

First Repentance Than The Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:11 "I indeed baptize you with water *unto repentance*, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

James 4:7-10 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

“If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one” (9T, 189).

Vance Havner says "God uses broken things. It takes broken soil to produce a crop; broken clouds to give rain; broken grain to give bread; broken bread to give strength. It is the broken alabaster box that gives forth perfume--it is Peter, weeping bitterly, who returns to greater power than ever."

Hosea 10:12 *Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.*

Lord must plow up a heart in order to make it into a beautiful garden.

When Nathan was born after we heard him cry I knew everything was fine.

There is a wrong repentance.

Heb 12:16, 17 *lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.*

Mat 27:3-5 *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, Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.... and went and hanged himself.*

Richard Allen Davis would not repent. Only sorry to divert judgment is not real repentance. **Saul, Jeroboam, Achan, Pharaoh.**

2 Cor 7:9,10 *Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.*

Lam 3:40 *Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD;*

Real repentance will be followed by reform. Placibo Grace

***Ezek 33:15** *"if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has stolen, and walks in the statutes of life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die.*

In the course of his preaching, W. P. Nicholson insisted on the need for restitution where something had to be put right with another person. After one mission held in East Belfast early in 1923, many tools and pieces of equipment which had been purloined earlier were returned to the shipyard, and in such quantities that an additional storage had to be built to hold them.

Acts 26:20 *"but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance.*

***2 Cor 5:17** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

Mat 26:75 *And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly*

Repentance Is A Gift From God.

***Acts 5:31** *"Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.*

Acts 11:18 *...and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."*

Rom 2:4 *Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?*

What did our sin cost? Jesus can only recreate and enter a broken heart.

When we truly behold the Lamb of God, it will break the heart for & from sin. Like "pin the tail on the donkey" Every time we sin it hurts Jesus.

Repent When?

Someone asked an old rabbi when is the best time to repent. He said "The last day of your life." But what if I don't know when that is? ...Exactly! Every time the Spirit pleads with us and we resist we a shell grows around our hearts and they become a little more callous until we can not repent.

- **Every day that we put off repenting is one more day to repent of and one less day to repent in.**
- In the Bible there is one example of a deathbed conversion that none might despair and only one so none might presume. –M Henry
- Death-bed repentance is burning the candle of life in the service of the devil, then blowing the snuff in the face of heaven.

A hermit was guided by an angel into a wood, where he saw an old man cutting down boughs to make up a bundle. When it was large, he tied it up, and attempted to lift it on his shoulder, and carry it away; but, finding it very heavy, he laid it down again, cut more wood, and heaped it on; and then tried again to carry it off. This he repeated several times; always adding something to the load, after trying in vain to raise it from the ground. In the meantime, the hermit, astonished at the old man's folly, desired the angel to explain what this meant.

"You behold," he said, "in the foolish old man an exact representation of those, who, being made aware of the burden of their sins, resolve to repent, but soon grow weary, and, instead of lessening their burden, increase it every day. At each trial, they find the task heavier than before; and so put it off a little longer, in the vain hope that they will by and by be more able to accomplish it. Thus they go on adding to their burden till it grows too heavy to be borne; and then, in despair of God's mercy, and with their sins unrepented of, they lie down and die.

Now repentance is no fun at all. It is something much harder than merely eating humble pie. It means unlearning all the self-conceit and self-will that we have been training ourselves into for thousands of years. It means killing part of yourself, undergoing a kind of death. C. S. Lewis

Repentance

Indifference to sin; "if God is grieved by sin shouldn't we be?"

Mark 3:5 ...*being grieved by the hardness of their hearts,*

A sorrow for sin

Heb 6:6 *if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.*

Heb 10:29 *Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?*

Zec 12:10 *"And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.*

Ezek 9:4 *and the LORD said to him, "Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it."*

2 Cor 12:21 *...I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not repented of the uncleanness, fornication, and lewdness which they have practiced.*

2 Peter 2:8 *(for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds);*

Jer 13:17 *But if you will not hear it, My soul will weep in secret for your pride; My eyes will weep bitterly And run down with tears, Because the Lord's flock has been taken captive.*

Isa 57:15 *For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*

Psa 119:136 *Rivers of water run down from my eyes, Because men do not keep Your law.*

Being baptized into Christ and the Adventist church is the same thing.

Robert Moffat- It was twelve more years before his message bore the fruit of revival. Suddenly the meeting house was crowded. Heathen songs were not sung in the village and dancing stopped. Prayers came to the lips of the Bechuanas, and the songs of Zion were sung. They began to give up their dirty habits. Converts were recorded, then time-tested, then baptized.

Acts 8:18-23 *And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit." But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! "You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. "For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity."*

A visitor at a fishing dock asked an old fisherman who was sitting there, "If I were to fall into this water, would I drown?"
It was an odd way of asking how deep the water was, but the fisherman had a good answer. "Naw," he said. "Fallin' into the water doesn't drown anybody. It's staying under it that does."