

"Repentance."

Acts 17:30-31

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And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now he commandeth all men every where to repent: (31)-

Because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

1-As to the necessity of repentance there is no discussion in the religious world today.

2-There is, however, some misunderstanding as to the meaning of the term.

1-Genesis 6:5-8; I read that:

Man had grown extremely wicked-so wicked that "it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth."

1-This is not to be construed as if God had conceived regret over a false step that he had made.

2-It implies a complete change of attitude toward the unfaithful race.

3-Herebefore;

God had been long-suffering; from that moment God planned to bring a flood upon the world of ungodly, saving the only righteous man, Noah, and his family.

2-Jonah and the Ninevites:

1-The story is recorded in the book of Jonah. Matthew 12:41;

The men of Ninevah shall rise in judgement with this generation, and shall condemn it: Because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, a greater than Jonah is here. What did they do when they repented-they turned from their evil way.

Jonah 3:8.

"Repentance."

Acts 17:30-31.

2-Repentance is a complete turning from the evil way; Acts 26:18;

Paul was delivered from the people and sent to the Gentiles- To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they might receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

3-Matthew 27:3-5-We read of Judas.

1-His attitude was changed:

3-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,

4-Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood, And they said,

1-What is that to us? see thou to that.

2-Judas repented, and ~~he~~ *had he been obedient* he could have been saved.

3-Instead of doing that, however, he went out and hanged himself.

4-We are commanded to bring forth "fruits meet for repentance." Matthew 3:8;

Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance.

1-What are some of the fruits of repentance?

1-The truly penitent man makes an open confession of his sins.

Matthew 27:3; Judas confessed his sin
Luke 15:21; The prodigal son confessed.

1-To be genuine it must result in a new life.

2-Cor. 5:17; Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away and all things are become new.

"Repentance." *To feel regret or*
Acts 17:30-31. *Computation for what*

5-What then is repentance? *One has done or not done*

1-Repentance is a complete turning from evil ways to righteousness; for I read from Isaiah 1:16;

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil.

2-The parable of the prodigal son:
Luke 15:11-24;

1-He went far away from home.

2-Spent all of his substance in riotous living.

3-Became poor and wretched *opportunities accepted*
may be like the morning twilight that brightens into day

4-Finally; *or neglected - like the evening twilight that*
deepens into night

1-He came to his senses.

2-While sorrowing over his sins, he resolved to arise and go back to his father, with an open confession of his guilt and implore the father's forgiveness.

6-Why ~~the~~ should we repent:

1-Because God commands it-Acts 17:30.

2-Because God has warned us time and again that, unless we repent, we shall likewise perish. Luke 13:3.

7-Examples where people would not repent.

1-The antediluvian world.

2-Sodom and Gomorrah.

3-Tyre and Sidon.

4-Babylon and Jerusalem. These repeated examples of the judgements of God should cause every one to repent and obey Him.

Again and again the message (opportunity) comes in vain, until the last day approaches and then
vanishes and eternity is at hand.

8-Hence, we close with the command of Peter in stating the Scriptural terms of pardon.

Acts 2:38.

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