

Repentance is More than saying I'm Sorry

Matthew 3:1-2

- 1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
- 2 And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

The Greek word in use for repent is:

3340. metanoeo, met-an-o-eh'-o; from G3326 and G3539; to think differently or afterwards, i.e. reconsider (morally feel compunction):--repent.

Compunction: a feeling of guilt or moral scruple that prevents or follows wrongdoing.

Repent: feel or express sincere regret or remorse.

So repentance is not only a feeling of regret or remorse for doing something wrong, but is also the changing of one's mind or purpose afterwards. Repenting requires a change in one's direction of thinking. The change that is taking place when you repent for a sin you have committed before God is the changing of one's mind or will to follow after the will of God. A surrendering of your will to that of God's will. God's will for us is to **keep His commandments.** (Jn 14:15)

Continuing from Matthew 3

- 5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,
- 6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, **confessing their sins.**

When you repent for your sins, you are both acknowledging and admitting your guilt of these sins before God.

Continuing from Matthew 3

- 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
- 8 Bring forth therefore **fruits meet for repentance:**

Notice that in order for you to repent you must bring forth fruits meet for repentance. This again, is stressing the importance for us to not only acknowledge

our wrongdoing and our guilt for our sins, but to be sorry for our sins and deciding to turn away from these sins to follow after God.

Remember a person is known by the fruit they produce.

Matthew 7:21

16 Ye shall know them **by their fruits**. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 **A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.**

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore **by their fruits ye shall know them.**

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Notice that not all that say Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but those that do the will of God. Again the will of God is to **keep His commandments**. (Jn 14:15)

Mark 1:14-15

14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,

15 And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

Notice the instructions given were to repent and to believe the Gospel. If you believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ and desire to obtain salvation of the Lord, then you must repent. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. (Rom 3:23)

Luke 13:2-5

2 And Jesus answering said unto them, **Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things?**

3 I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

4 Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

5 I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

Repenting is not a choice but a commandment. You must repent of your sins or you will perish.

2 Corinthians 7:10

10 For **godly sorrow worketh repentance** to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Repentance is only the beginning of living your life after Christ. **Repentance is** the changing of your mind from following after your ways, and following after God's ways. Meaning, you must surrender your will to the will of God. **You must deny your flesh and follow after Christ.**

This is not being saved by your own works. This is being saved by grace through faith. The Lord knew that it was impossible for mankind to live above sin by his own power. So He made a way for us to be pardoned of our sins. The Lord died in our place to redeem us from sin, for the soul that sins, it shall die. (Ezek 18:20)

In order for us to escape this Law of Sin and Death, the Lord died on the cross for our sins as our substitute. So that we could now partake of being born again. Not a natural birthing process of being born again of the flesh. But a spiritual birth that is fulfilled by taking part of the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection. For we were **all born in sin** and shapen in iniquity. (Psa 51:5)

Repentance is only the first step in the new birth or the born again process. The fulfillment of the born again process or the new birth is found in:

Acts 2:37-39

37 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?

38 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.**

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, **even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**

Repenting or repentance is not a one time occurrence. The Lord knew that it was impossible for mankind to not fall short and find that they have sinned before the Lord. So He made a way for us to overcome sin by asking for forgivingness of our sins. The Lord set us free from the condemnation of the Mosaic Law and

brought forth justification of life. But in order for you to obtain this justification of life, you must have partaken of the born again process and then repent when you make a mistake!!!!

Romans 3:19-20

19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: **that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.**

20 Therefore **by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight:** for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Galatians 4:4-5

4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

5 To **redeem them that were under the law,** that we might receive the adoption of sons.

In order for you to receive this adoption of being a son of God, **you must partake of the new birth process** of believing, repenting of your sins, and being born of water (baptism in Jesus name) and of the Spirit (receiving the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in another tongue as the Spirit gives the utterance), or you **cannot enter** into the kingdom of God. (See Mk 1:14-15; Jn 3:1-7, Mk 16:16; Acts 2:1-4, Acts 2:36-39)

That is the Word of God!!!! Such a simple thing to do.

Romans 8:1-2

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, **who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**

2 For **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus** hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Again, **this only applies to those that have the Spirit of life**, which is the Spirit of Christ, which is the Spirit of God, which is the Holy Spirit, which will come into you with the evidence of speaking in another tongue as the Spirit gives the utterance.

You Must be born again!!!!!! Or you will not receive justification of life.

Also notice that the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the Law of Sin and Death. For the soul that sins, it shall die. **It is a PROMISE!!!** (Ezek 18:20)

Also remember that what this is saying is that we are not living under condemnation (referring to the Mosaic Law, not the Law of Sin and Death) but we are living unto justification of life. Meaning, you don't beat yourself up when you make a mistake and sin, (which is condemnation) but you **instead repent of your sins**, by telling God you are sorry for them, and ask Him to forgive you.

Knowing this.....

1 John 1:8-10

8 If we say that we have no sin, **we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.**

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (Freed from condemnation to live unto justification of life)

10 If we say that we have not sinned, **we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.**

Hebrews 4:14-16

14 Seeing then that we have **a great high priest,** that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.

15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, **yet without sin.**

16 Let us therefore **come boldly unto the throne of grace,** that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. (Freed from condemnation to live unto justification of life)

Unless you REPENT you will die in your sins!!!!!!

Ezekiel 18:23-29

23 Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: **and not that he should return from his ways, and live?**

24 But when the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and **committeth iniquity,** and doeth according to all the abominations that the wicked man doeth, shall he live? All his righteousness that he hath done **shall not be mentioned:** in his trespass that he hath trespassed, and in his sin that he hath sinned, **in them shall he die.**

25 Yet ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O house of Israel; Is not my way equal? are not your ways unequal?

26 When a righteous man turneth away from his righteousness, and **committeth iniquity, and dieth in them; for his iniquity that he hath done shall he die.**

27 Again, when the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and **doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive.**

28 Because he considereth, and turneth away from all his transgressions that he hath committed, **he shall surely live, he shall not die.**

29 Yet saith the house of Israel, The way of the Lord is not equal. O house of Israel, are not my ways equal? are not your ways unequal?

In conclusion, repentance is more than just saying I am sorry, but **repentance** is a feeling of regret or remorse for doing something wrong as well as the changing of one's direction. This directional change is the changing of one's mind or will to follow after the will of God. **Repentance is not an option but a commandment.**

Repenting is the first step taken toward the new birth experience of being born again, as well as an on going act every time you come short of the glory of God and find that you have sinned. For the Law of Sin and Death is not the same as the Mosaic Law.

The Mosaic Law given to Moses at Mount Sinai, was given that all mouths may be stopped and that all may become guilty before God. Thus proving that no man's works could save him from sin and thus the need of a Savior, Jesus Christ the Righteous.

Jesus Christ never destroyed the Mosaic Law, but rather He fulfilled the Law. In order for you to receive this fulfillment of the Law you must partake of the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection.

To partake of the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection, you must repent and be baptized (immersed in water) in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, which comes into you with the evidence of speaking in another tongue as the Spirit gives the utterance.

This Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus sets us free from the Law of Sin and Death while at the same time fulfills the Mosaic Law. This fulfilling of the Mosaic Law frees us from the guilt and condemnation of not being able to be saved by our own works, but rather we are saved by the Law of Faith which allows us, by God's

grace, to have access to the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, which now dwells inside of us because we have been born of His Spirit.

Thus through the Law of Faith we have access to the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, which fulfilled the Mosaic Law of works, wherein no man is justified, and now we are justified freely by Jesus Christ without the works of the Mosaic Law.

However, if we sin we fall back under the Law of Sin and Death, which is why the Lord, our High Priest who is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins, tells us to come boldly before the throne of grace in time of need. Because no man can be justified by their own works. But instead we are justified by Jesus Christ, without the works of the Mosaic Law, through the Law of Faith.