

The Radical Repentance of Christ

my impressions

Choose from the following phrases those which best describe your impression of each of the statements below.

- A. It makes sense B. I didn't know that C. That's interesting
D. This challenges me E. I never thought of it that way before
F. It sounds important G. That changes my thinking
H. It's humbling I. That gives me hope J. Other _____

1. Jesus, as our example (1 Peter 2:21; John 17:19¹⁸), came to John the Baptist requesting the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins! (Matthew 3:13¹; Mark 1:4²)
2. In doing so, Jesus taught that *the way* to righteousness, or right doing in thoughts, feelings, and actions, was by accepting God's gift of repentance. (Matthew 3:14, 15⁵)
3. Repentance provides more than just sorrow for sin. It leads to great comfort and an obedient life. (Psalm 23:4; 119:50; Isaiah 12:1)
4. Though Jesus was Emmanuel, God with us, He too needed the gift of repentance, (Matthew 3:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21). But He couldn't create that on His own (John 5:19, 30¹¹). Jesus had to ask for it, and God had to give it to Him, just like God will do for us! (Matthew 26:39¹⁴; 2 Peter 1:3; Ezekiel 36:26; Luke 11:9, 10)
5. The reason Jesus lived a sanctified life was so He could create in us His holiness through the gift of repentance (John 17:19¹⁸; Acts 5:31; Ephesians 4:8).
6. In the Repentance Model (p. 2), God has a part to play—the hardest part, changing my heart. We also have a part to play. It is simple, so simple a child can do it—dwelling on the goodness of God, and asking for the gift of repentance. (Ezekiel 36:26; Romans 2:4)
7. The great and ongoing call of the Bible is to repent! The final call to God's last day people is still repent! (Revelation 2:5, 16; 3:3, 19)

My Prayer Choice: Lord, there are things in my life that I like, even love, that I know You hate. There are sins of thinking, feeling, and acting that have become virtually who and what I am. Now there are no more excuses. I am asking You to give me a repentant heart, one that hates what You hate, and loves what You love. You did it for Jesus, Father, when He prayed to You in the Garden (Matthew 26:39). I'm ready to accept that miracle in my life by daily doing my part, (steps 1 & 2) and watching for Your miracle of a changed heart or right brain. I want to bring joy to Your heart. (Job 1:1, 8; Jude 24)

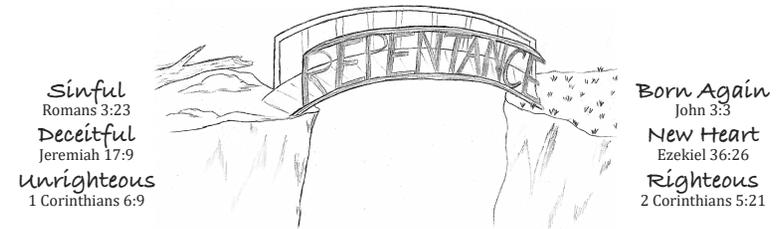
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LESSON 8

THE RADICAL REPENTANCE OF CHRIST

1. **Matthew 3:13, 14** Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
2. **Mark 1:4, 5 NKJ** John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of _____ for the remission of sins. And all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.
3. **Hebrews 4:15** ... [Jesus] was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without _____.
4. **John 8:46 NIV** Can any of you prove me guilty of sin?
5. **Matthew 3:15** And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.



Etymology & Statistics: The word “repent,” with its varied suffixes, is used 46 times in the OT and 66 times in the NT. Two Hebrew words, and three Greek words, are used to express the varied nuances of this spiritual experience. The first, and most used word in the OT, *nacham*, means to sigh. The second and least used word, *shuwb*, means to turn back. Of the 46 times the word “repent” is used in the Old Testament, 28 of them are in reference to God repenting. The Bible presents man as repenting 26% of the time while God repents 74% of the time!

6. **Genesis 6:6, 7** And it _____ the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

Repentance: A Working Model

- My Part*
1. **Bethinking**
Bethinking or *remembering* all the good things God has done for others and for you (1 Kings 8:46-48; Romans 2:47; Luke 15:16-20). This is the tap root of God's true gift of repentance. Paul tells us in Romans 2:4 that it is God's goodness that leads us to repentance.
 2. **Asking**
 Asking for the gift of repentance. Repentance is a gift that comes from the outside to the inside but we must ask for it. We ask God to make us feel about things the way He does (Ezekiel 11:19, 20; 36:26; Luke 11:9-13; 24:45-48; Acts 5:31; Psalm 68:18; John 16:24; Matthew 7:7-8). Remember & Ask. This is so simple a child can do it. We can all do it!
- God's Part*
3. **Sorrow & Joy**
Sorrow for sin, the sin itself (2 Corinthians 7:10).
Joy for right doing, for righteousness sake (John 16:20-22; Jeremiah 31:13⁸).
 4. **Hatred & Love**
Hatred or abhorrence of sin and evil wherever it presents itself (Romans 12:9; Job 42:6; Luke 14:26; Revelation 2:6).
Love is the principle of giving what is needed most but it is also a strong affection, in this case for what God feels great about. (John 3:16; Jeremiah 31:3; John 13:1; 1 John 4:19).
- Results*
5. **Turning**
Turning away from sin and toward God in heart and life. (Isaiah 55:6-9; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Hosea 4:11; Ezekiel 36:26).

Repentance Defined:

Repentance is feeling about things the way God does and acting accordingly.

Why English sailors were called Limeys:

They discovered that lime juice cured them of scurvy. Repentance, like vitamin C, not only cures you of your past sins, but it also keeps you from falling into sin in the future.

This is why the same word, *nacham*, translated "Repent" 38% of the time is also translated "Comfort" 61% of the time! (see Psalm 119:50; Isaiah 21:1)

9. **John 1:29** . . . Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the _____ of the world.

10. **2 Corinthians 5:21** For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.
11. **John 5:19, 30** . . . Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, . . . I can of mine own self do nothing: . . .

Jesus Lived the Repentance Model

12. **John 11:41, 42** . . . Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. (He **remembered**-Step 1)
13. **Luke 22:44** And being in an _____ he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.
14. **Matthew 26:39** And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as ___ will, but as thou wilt. (He **asked**-Step 2)
15. **John 11:35** Jesus wept. (He felt **sorrow** for sin-Step 3)
16. **John 2:15** And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; (He felt **hatred** toward sin-Step 4)
17. **Matthew 4:1, 10** Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be _____ of the devil. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. (He **turned** away from sin)
18. **John 17:19** And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. (He is our example of victory over sin)

Call to Repentance: John the Baptist's message in preparation for the Messiah was "Repent!" (Matthew 3:2, 8, 11). When Jesus started His ministry His message was "Repent!" (Matthew 4:17). The message of the disciples first sermon was "Repent!" (Mark 6:12). Jesus explained that the reason He came, lived, died, and rose again was so repentance could be given to mankind (Luke 24:46-47). The reason Christ was glorified and now sits at the right hand of the Father is to give repentance to each of us (Acts 5:31). The call of Peter's great Pentecost sermon was "Repent!" (Acts 2:38). And the last message given to men by Jesus (Revelation 2 & 3) is "Repent!"

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