

As for me, I shall call upon God, And the LORD will save me.

Psalms 55:16

Store In My Heart Acts 11:25-26

And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.

Barnabas and Saul did not set themselves apart from the rest of the brethren in that city. They met and worked together as a church should. We need to work with the brethren in whatever location we may find ourselves. This group continued to fellowship with Barnabas and Saul when they were 'set apart' to carry the Word to the Gentiles throughout the World.

This local collective work seems to have led not only to many hearing the Word, but also a label, or name, for those who were following Christ. They were called Christians because they followed the teachings of Christ. This is certainly a good example of saints in fellowship.



Repentance

Dan Henderson

I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Luke 13:3

Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead. Acts 17:30-31

Any serious student of the Bible knows that God requires repentance of man. What is repentance? Exactly what does God require when He commands men to repent? BDB/Thayer defines repent as: 1) to change one's mind; 2) to change one's mind for better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins. This definition is similar to what we think of when we look at the word repent. If we want to know what God means by repent though we must go to the only source available to know God's meaning - the Bible.

"But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in the vineyard.' And he answered, 'I will not'; but afterward he regretted it and went. The man came to the second and said the same thing; and he answered, 'I will, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing this, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him." Matthew 21:28-32

With this parable used to condemn the chief priest and elders of the Jews Jesus tells us what repentance means. Look again at verse 29. The first son said I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. His repentance was a change of mind that brought about a change of action. He did not just change his mind he acted upon that change.

Many today practice a repentance that is foreign to the Word of God. They consider repentance to just be an inward change. It is taught by

many that you can repent of a sin yet still engage in that sin. Much of this teaching has to do with divorce and remarriage. Some teach that one in an adulterous marriage can repent and expect forgiveness from God yet remain in the wrong relationship. This would be comparable to Jesus teaching in His parable that the first son said I will not: but afterward he repented, and did not go. You and I can see that such a statement would be ridiculous. But it is this very thing that many are teaching about adulterous marriages.

The Scriptures clearly show that repentance requires a change of action as well as mind. In his sermon from Solomon's porch, Peter told the Jews:

"Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord;" Acts 3:19

He told Simon the sorcerer to repent of his wickedness.

"Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you." Acts 8:22

Do you suppose Simon thought he could go ahead and buy the Gift after he repented? That is not what is shown in **Acts 8**. Simon was afraid God would destroy him for asking the first time, he certainly wasn't going to ask again.

Paul tells us that when he taught repentance it was to bring about a turn in the lives of his listeners.

but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance. Acts 26:20

Not only were their lives to change, but their works were also to demonstrate their change of mind and attitude. This is not what we find so often today. We find the alcohol drinker repents and ask forgiveness for getting drunk then goes back to drinking. The liar repents of lying then lies again. The fornicator repents and asks us and God to forgive, then returns to the adulterous marriage relationship as if nothing is wrong.

This is not repentance and God will judge. Let us all **study carefully** to know God's Will.

Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

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The
CHURCH OF CHRIST
MEETS HERE



10:20 AM • Sunday Worship Service
5:00 PM • Sunday Night Bible Study
7:00 PM • Wednesday Bible Study

For Our Information

Annette Gray is still recovering from her injuries.

Sue Soliday is getting some help with her sleeping.

Brenda Keisler is waiting on her MRI results.

Ruben Keisler is waiting on Dr for his elbow surgery.

JoBeth Henderson has a PET/CT scan on Thursday of this week.

Tommy Robinson has some inflation in his lung and is to see the Dr in July.

Jon Ross Simpson has moved to Conway for school and work.

Sunday @ 5 - **Isaiah 60** Wednesday @ 7 - **Revelation 20:4**