



**Repent**  
**TOUGH ON SINS**

# Have We Repented or Just Reported?

**Act 17:30-31 "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, "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."**

# What is repentance?

- In the Old Testament the idea of repentance is found 1050 times = to turn or return
- In the New Testament repentance is found much less but carries a deeper meaning = to think differently, to reconsider
- Repent = feel or express sincere regret or remorse about one's wrongdoing or sin
- Repentance = the act of repenting, sincere regret or remorse (Oxford Dict.)

# What is reporting?

Report = give a spoken or written account of something that one has observed, heard, done or investigated (Oxford Dict.)

- Monday morning class at FSOP Maurice would often tell us about them “reporting” on Sunday, but failing to ever really repent!
- This lesson tonight comes from those lessons I was taught about the difference in these two and how they are often confused!

# The Bible's Three-fold Description/ Definition of Repentance!

- We hope to learn tonight how we can know the difference between these two and then ask ourselves “have we repented or just reported?”
- Repentance = to restore and make restoration; to reverse; to change one's mind (Thayer's Greek English Lexicon)
- Report = give a spoken or written account; convey information about an event or situation (Oxford)

# Repentance vs. Reporting!

● As seen in the definitions of these two words one have to do with what we say “report” and what we show “repent!”

● Let’s keep in mind that the Bible often teaches the totality and not the exclusion!

– Ps 119:160 The sum of thy word is truth; And every one of thy righteous ordinances endureth for ever.

– Mk 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned.

# I. True Repentance Means We Show Sorrow!

2 Cor 7:8-10 For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it.

For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. 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. For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

# Sorrow over sin lead to repentance from sin!

- As kids my momma always said “don't say you are sorry unless you really mean it, being sorry means you wont do it again”
- “Sorry” (loo-peh'-o) twice v. 8 three v. 9) to distress; be sad; to be in heaviness
- Many believe this is in response to what Paul wrote then in (1 Cor. 5:1-9)
  - They needed to understand their sin, to first save themselves and also to help save others!



# An example of this kind of true repentance! (Acts 2:14-47)

- They came to understand their sin, seek to know what to do and Peter tells them!
  - Act 2:37-38 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 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.

## II. True Repentance Means We Stop Sinning!

- This should be clear by understanding what repentance is = to restore and make restoration; to reverse; to change one's mind (Thayer)
- It is not enough to just show sorrow, we must be willing to stop sinning!
  - Rom 6:1-2 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? (Cf. Rom 6:15)

# 10 In Christ we are given a new life!

- Rom 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

- 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.

- Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind,

# One cannot remain in sin and still be forgiven!

1 Jn. 3:4-6

- The only unforgivable sin is the sin not repented of! (1 Jn. 1:9 & 5:16-18)
- Let's end this point by looking at the words of Jesus!
  - John 8:11 She said, "No one, Lord."  
And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

# III. True Repentance Means We Start Service!

- Many times repentance is defined as a “u-turn!”
  - This is a good illustration because it does capture the idea “to reverse!”
  - It is not enough to stop doing what is wrong, we must also be willing to start doing what is right!
- We were living for Satan and now we need to put it in reverse, not just neutral!

Act. 26:20 but declared both to them of Damascus first and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judaea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, doing works worthy of repentance.

- “And prove their repentance by their deeds” (NIV)
- “performing deeds in keeping with their repentance” (ESV)
- We must “start service!”

# We find many examples of this in the Bible!

- Paul who was once Saul, went from persecuting the church to preaching Christ!
  - He showed sorrow!
  - He stopped sinning!
  - He started service!
- He then goes on to write almost half of the New Testament!

# Conclusion:

- I ask you again tonight, have you repented or just reported? What do we see when we look at the fruits of our lives?
- If you have not come to true repentance then we would have you to even tonight!
- It is past time for God's children to fully understand what repentance means!
  - We show sorrow!
  - We stop sinning!
  - We start service!



**PEOPLE  
ON EARTH  
HATE TO HEAR THE WORD**

**REPENT!**

**THOSE IN  
HELL**

**WISH THEY COULD  
HEAR IT**

**JUST ONCE MORE**

**IT'S  
NOT  
TOO  
LATE!**

