

Saturday & Sunday Celebrations [8-19,20-06]
The weapon of repentance=reveal, deal, heal

Freedom Series [Pt. 8]

The right tool:

Biblical repentance

1. The necessity of Repentance:

Biblical repentance is necessary for our salvation = **Mark 1:15**

Biblical repentance is necessary for our sanctification = **Rev. 2:5**

2. The Source of repentance:

FROM GOD

2 Timothy 2:25-26 ...*God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.*

The right use:

What does repentance mean?

Repentance = = the **changing** of one's mind, our thoughts and desires about sin.

Repentance = a **continuing activity** ==greater freedom from the activity of sin.

reveal, deal and heal

reveal=

John 16:8 God convicts us to free us=*so that we would no longer be slaves to sin*
[Rom. 6:6]

We must want to know our sin to be free of it.==**Psalm 139:23-24**

deal:

ask for the grace to repent

ONLY THE GRACE OF GOD CAN OVERCOME OUR SIN = **Rom. 5:20**

WHAT DOES BIBLICAL REPENTANCE LOOK LIKE

IN ORDER FOR US TO EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF REPENTANCE, WE MUST EXPERIENCE TWO THINGS:

GOD'S GRIEF OVER OUR SIN [EPH. 4:30]

GOD'S JOY OVER OUR FREEDOM [NEH. 8:10]

First, I must become aware of how my sin affects God=

Luke 19:41 and Matt. 23:37 *When [Jesus] approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling*

THIS SHOULD BE OUR **FIRST CONCERN**

*Our problem is that we are **more** in touch with our own feelings and desires than we are with God's.*

We need to **cultivate a heart that is sensitive to God's feeling about sin.**
Otherwise, our repentance will fall short.

Psalm 51:17 *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart O God You will not despise;*

we must ASK God to grant us repentance

JAMES 4:2 ... YOU HAVE NOT BECAUSE YOU ASK NOT

Sinclair Ferguson gives us three ways to recognize Biblical repentance

- 1.** A sense of **shame**=because we have put God to an open shame=**Rom. 2:24**
- 2.** A **humbling**=we are in desperate and continual need of God's grace =**1 Peter 5:6**
- 3.** A **sorrow** and regret=that produces a **strong** distaste and hatred of sin=**Psalm 45:7**

2 Corinthians 7:8-11 tells us

V.8 SORROW is *the first and most necessary effect*

V. 9 GOD IS THE SOURCE OF OUR SORROW

V. 10 God's motive is our transformation

V. 11 We experience a complete change of mind about our sin

Seven affects of a changed mind: [Sinclair Ferguson]

1. **Earnestness:** A serious and correct attitude and assessment about sin.
2. **Vindication** [Eagerness to be clear of our sin]:
3. **Indignation:** hatred for sin
4. **Fear:** fear of the consequences [God's discipline] as well as a fear of repeating sin.
5. **Longing:** a longing for the fellowship of God to be restored.
6. **Zeal:** a zealous desire for transformation and reconciliation with God
7. **Avenging:** a strong desire to punish our sin

The right effect: Heal

1. renewed trust in God
2. renewed obedience
3. rejection of sin
4. the joy and peace of freedom.

Biblical repentance meets the temptation at the door of our heart and slays it there, not allowing it to enter.

WE MAY HEAR OUR TEMPTATION SAY, "I'LL HUFF AND I'LL PUFF AND I'LL BLOW YOUR HOUSE DOWN"

BUT REPENTANCE SAYS, "I HAVE BUILT MY HOUSE OUT OF SOLID BRICK AND YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO BLOW IT DOWN."

Conclusion:

In the beginning I said that there are two essential experiences we must have in order to be free of our sinful patterns:

The experience of God's grief over our sin

And

The Joy of the Lord over our freedom.

These two will protect and keep our minds in the love of God so that when temptation comes, we will not open the door.

The result of repentance: the fruit of righteousness:

the "joy of the Lord" will be our strength, so that

We will be grace motivated and empowered

To please God in all things [**1 Cor.10:31**]

So that **Jude 24-25 will be our experience:**

*Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with **great joy**, 25 to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen*