

Repentance in the New Testament

Prepared for Berkeley SDA Young Adult Ministry Bible Study on April 19, 2014

Repentance in Acts

Acts 2:14 (context, Peter stood up and begins preaching)

V36-41 – people cut to the heart

What shall we do?

(1) Repent and (2) be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ

(2) This is tied to forgiveness of sins

(3) This leads to receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit

(4) V41 – people got baptized right away

Acts 3:1-2, 5-7 (context, Peter heals lame man, everyone saw this, Peter starts preaching about Jesus)

V17-20 – in response to what Jesus did, do what?

Repent and turn to God

This leads to sins being wiped out

V26 – turning each of you from your wicked ways

Acts 5:12-17 (context, apostles heal many, high priest and associates angry, throw them in jail, angel opened up jail and told them to preach in temple courts, apostles called in to appear before Sanhedrin and high priest)

V28-33 – obey God rather than man (key side note)

“Give repentance to Israel”

give “forgiveness of sins”

***2 Timothy 2:25 ‘God will give them repentance’

their response – ‘cut to the heart’

acts 7:54 ‘cut to the heart’

Acts 8:5-8 (context, Philip went to Samari, preached, did miracles and cast out demons, joy)

V9-13 – everyone baptized, including Simon

V14-19 – after Simon is converted/baptized, Simon offered money to get the power to lay hands

V20-22 – Simon’s heart is not right, so do what? Repent, and pray to God.

These two things lead to forgiveness

Acts 10 (context, Peter receives vision that gospel is also for Gentiles)

11:1-4 – Peter recounts this to them

v18 – God has granted repentance. What does it lead to? Leads to life

Acts 17:16-21 (context, in Athens, philosophers want to know what’s up)

V22-23 – they are worshipping unknown God ignorantly, Paul will show them who this is

V29-30 – God winks at ignorance (key belief, most denominations don't believe this)

But commands all people everywhere to repent (not merely believe)

What are they repenting of? Murder? Lying? No, its worshipping idols, the 2nd commandment. Did you know we are to preach repentance to idol worshippers today? Buddhists, hindus, etc?

V31 – there will be a day of judgment in the future (investigative judgment, another study)

Acts 20:17-19 (context, Paul speaking to elders of the church)

V20 – paul preached to them things that would be helpful to them. What are some of those things?

V21 – Jews and Greeks must what – (1) turn to God in repentance and (2) have faith in our Lord Jesus. Are these optional? No.

Acts 26:14-16 (paul recounting his conversion experience before Agrippa)

V17 – Jesus is sending Paul to Jews and Gentiles

V18 – to do what? (1) open their eyes, (2) turn them from darkness to light, (3) from the power of Satan to [the power of] God. (this is repentance spelled out)

Why? So they may (1) receive forgiveness of sins and (2) a place amount those who are sanctified by faith in Christ.

V19-20 – paul preached repentance, turning to God, and demonstrate their repentance by deeds. Did you know that paul preached the demonstration of repentance by deeds?

**Matt 3:7-8 “product fruit meet for repentance” KJV

V21 – why did jews give him a hard time? Because he preached repentance

Repentance in the Epistles

Hebrews 5:10 (context, talking about Christ as our high priest)

V11-12 - cant even reach this because its over their head, when they should've been able to be teachers, they need someone to reach the elementary truths of God's word all over again

V13 – if you can't teach, and if you need milk, you aren't acquainted with the teaching of righteousness

V14 – solid food for mature, constant use have done what – trained themselves to distinguish good from evil

6:1 – elementary teaching is repentance from acts that lead to death. This is listed 1st as the most fundamental teaching about Christ.

2 Peter 3:8-9 – perishing on one hand, repenting on the other hand. If you don't repent, you perish.

Also, wording parallels John 3:16 “shall not perish, but have eternal life”

Romans 2:4 – God’s goodness is supposed to lead us to repentance (not just believing)

2 Corinthians 7:8-11 – Godly sorrow leads to repentance, worldly sorrow leads to death

2 Corinthians 12:21 – Paul ending his letter, worried that he will be grieved because ‘many who have sinned and not repented of sexual sin and debauchery’

Repentance in the gospels

Matt 3: 1-2 – what did John say? Believe only? No - Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Matt 4:17 – what did Jesus say? Believe only? No - Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Matt 9: 11-13 – Why did Jesus come? To call sinners to repentance

Matt 11:20-22 – Jesus denounced towns where a lot of miracles were done because they didn’t repent

Matt 21:28-32 – repent and believe, not believe only

Mark 6:7-11 (context, Jesus sends out the 12)
V12 – what did they preach? Repentance

Luke 13:1-9 – repent or perish (v3, v5)

Luke 15:1-6 – parable of lost sheep

V7 – heaven rejoices when sinners repent, not just believe only. Why?
Because this is salvational

V8-9 – parable of lost coin

V10 - heaven rejoices when sinners repent, not just believe only. Why?
Because this is salvational

**James 2:19 – why is believing not sufficient? The demons believe too!

Luke 24:44-46 – (context, Jesus has risen and is about to ascend. Last words in the book of Luke before ascension)

V47 – repentance leads to forgiveness of sins, this will be preached to all nations beginning at Jerusalem (the books of Acts hello!)

Repentance in Revelation

To the 7 churches: Rev 2:5, 2:16, 2:21, 2:22, 3:3, 3:19 (a call to repent to the churches and through the ages)

9:20-21 (end of time, refused to repent)

16:9-11 (end of time, refused to repent)