

Unpacking the Gospel

Class 6: Man's Response: Repentance and Faith

August 9th, 2023



I. Repentance

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. Isaiah 55:7
Greek: metánoia: A change of mind or change in the inner man.
Hebrew:shûb: A turning away from sin and turning towards God.

A. False and Genuine Repentance

"And now I rejoice, not because you were made sorrowful, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you felt the sorrow that God had intended, and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation without regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. Consider what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what zeal, what vindication! In every way you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter." 2 Corinthians: 7:9-11

B. A work of the Holy Spirit

And a servant of the Lord must not be quarrelsome, but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, and forbearing. 25He must gently reprove those who oppose him, in the hope that God may grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth." 2 Timothy 2:24-25
"When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life." Acts 11:18
"Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?" Romans 2:4
"The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

C. Results of true repentance

1. A change of Mind.. 2. A brokenness and sorrow towards God. 3. A personal acknowledgement and confession of sin. 4. A turning away from sin. 5. A renunciation of self righteousness and good works. 6. A turning towards God. 7. Practical Obedience. 8. A continuing and deepening work of repentance.

II. Faith

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

A. 3 Components of Saving Faith

1. Knowledge. 2. Assent. 3. Trust

B. A work of the Holy Spirit

"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:44

"But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me." John 15:26

"I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." John 3:3

C. Results of True Faith

1. The end of Boasting. We renounce all disgraceful and underhanded ways and count all of our good works as nothing in comparison to knowing Christ. 2. Obey and Love God. "And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and to carefully observe My ordinances." Ezekiel 36:27. 3. True faith will bear fruit of the Spirit and Good works. "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." James 2:17. 4. Trusting God's Promises. "And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness." Genesis 15:6

III. Repentance, Faith, and the Gospel

A. A call to Repentance and Faith

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 3:2

"Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 3:10

"The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death." Proverbs 14:27

"it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment." Hebrews 9:27

Repentance and faith are inseparable, you cannot have one without the other.

B. A Life of Repentance and Faith.

"What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him,

"You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me."

Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him,

"The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean." John 13:7-10

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar, and His word is not in us." 1 John: 8-10

"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you." John 13: 13-14

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power to prevail." James 5:16-17

Repentance strengthens our faith and our faith deepens our repentance

Questions for Personal Application:

1. In what ways do you practice false repentance?
2. With regards to repentance and faith: In what ways do you try to do what only the Holy Spirit can do?
3. Is there a pattern of deepening repentance in your life? Is there a pattern of deepening faith in your life?
4. If there isn't, what obstacles or sins are you placing between you and God that are hindering this critical work?
5. In what areas of your life do you see genuine repentance and faith?
6. In what areas of repentance and faith is God growing you?