

Sermon Notes – 10.29.2023 Discipleship – Repentance

Matthew 4:17 From that time Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Mark 1:15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Repentance: [metanoeo] To change one's mind, to repent, to change one's mind for better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins ~ **Thayer Definition**

Acts 3:19 "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;

Everything Changed When Jesus Died and Rose Again

Acts 17:30-31 "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, 31 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."

What Does True Repentance Look Like?

2 Corinthians 7:10-11 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death. 11 For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

This was written concerning an offence between two people but is much the same with God

The difference between an apology and true repentance

Apology - An acknowledgment expressing regret or asking pardon for a fault or offense.

Originally meant to give a defense, explanation, or excuse

Excuse - an explanation that frees one from fault or blame.

Sometimes an Apology is exactly what is called for, But:

Repentance is necessary when, along with forgiveness, we also need cleansing & transformation.

1 John 1:6-10 If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; 7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.

At its Best, An Apology Provides Comfort and Restores Friendship – But it Does Not Change Us.

Repenting to God / Repenting to one another.

- Repentance begins by confessing that we have done something wrong (Not just a mistake)
- Second, repentance requires that we take the responsibility for the wrong.
There is nothing to be forgiven if the offence is not our fault.
- Then that “all- important” question– “Will you forgive me?”

Keeping Our Relationships Right is Very Important to God

Matthew 5:23-24 "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

Repentance Toward God – From Salvation Forward

Acts 20:21 "...testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 28:13 He who conceals his transgressions will not prosper, But he who confesses and forsakes *them* will find compassion.

Do Not Fear that God Will Reject Your Coming to Him in Repentance

Luke 15:18-20 'I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men.'" 20 "So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

Repentance Also Looks Like This

Ephesians 4: 20-32 But you did not learn Christ in this way, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, 22 that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of* God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth. 25 Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another. 26 BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and do not give the devil an opportunity. 28 He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need. 29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such *a word* as is good for edification according to the need *of the moment*, so that it will give grace to those who hear. 30 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Revelation 3:3 'So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.