

## Repentance Part Two

Due to the length of this topic the lesson begun in Repentance Part One will now continue and conclude as the lesson Repentance Part Two.

### Examples of repentance

**2 Samuel 12:13** “And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.” and **Psalm 51** (To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.) “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise. For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem. Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer **bullocks upon thine altar.**” King David lived a life in which most of the time he was obedient to God. However, he was not perfect sometimes he stumbled and fell. In the case above David went horribly wrong. He committed adultery, and then ordered an innocent man to be murdered. However, David repented. He said, “I have sinned,” and did not try and blame anyone else. Because David was so deeply repentant for what he did, God forgave him. Sometimes we can repent and God will forgive us, but there might still be consequences that we have to face for our actions. David received God’s forgiveness but he still had to cope with the death of his and Bathsheba’s first born and his house was constantly in turmoil. David repented and will get to go to Heaven, but still had to face the consequences of sin here on earth. No matter what you have done, if you truly repent, God will forgive you, to God all sin is the same there are no big and little sins.

**Jonah 3:4-10** “And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from

him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands. Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.” and **Matthew 12:41** “The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.” The people of Nineveh were displeasing to God and were told they must repent. To their credit they did repent, at least for a time, so God forgave them. It should be noted in the Old Testament times God was sometimes more inclined to directly punish someone while they were still alive for their sins, but not always. Today in the New Testament times we live in God will reserve punishment for sin until either death or the second coming of Jesus.

**Matthew 26:75** “And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.” Peter knew he had done wrong in denying Jesus not once, but three times. However, he repented and went on to be a strong servant of Jesus, helping spreading the Word, and helping to build the early church. He had Godly sorrow and was forgiven.

**Luke 15:11-32** “And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my

friends: But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.” The younger son, in this parable, had the wrong priorities in his life, and was all about putting himself first, and doing whatever he wanted. However, he came to understand he needed to change his life, and repented of his wrong doing, and was forgiven by his father. Just like you and me can be today, the younger son was on the wrong path in life, but eventually corrected his life. Just like you and me today, God will forgive our sins if we repent, like the younger son’s father forgave him.

**Acts 2:38-41** “Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.” Some of the people that were present at the first Gospel sermon came to understand during that sermon, that they were lost and had to make a change in their lives, or perish eternally. Some of them that were present that day repented and were baptized. Those that did, if they stayed faithful Christians, will get to spend eternity in Heaven. Repentance means making a change in your life, and learning to put God’s will first. Someone that repents of their sins and is not yet a Christian will also need to be baptized and live as a faithful Christian in order to eventually be in Heaven. Someone that is already a Christian that stumbles and falls does not need to be baptized again, as long as they were baptized for the correct reasons, but they will still need to repent and then live as a faithful Christian.

### Fruits of repentance

**Luke 15:7** “I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.” Heaven rejoices when one truly repents and is striving to get their lives back on a path that is pleasing to God. God wants us to be saved!

**Colossians 3:1-10** “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him”

When we have changed our lives and repented from our old ways, God will be first in our lives, and people will see our new ways. Clearly, living in obedience to God will take work, but the reward, beyond avoiding God's wrath, is eternity in Heaven. Our time on earth is brief compared to eternal life. Isn't the effort of living our lives in obedience to God now, worth such a long-lasting reward?

**1 John 1:6-10** "If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that 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 that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." We have all sinned, but we can also all change our lives and repent. If one is willing to repent and be baptized to live as a faithful Christian, or a fallen Christian gets back on God's path and repents of past sins, God is ready willing and able to forgive us! Will we choose to walk in the light with God or in the darkness without Him?

### Conclusion

Hopefully, this two-part lesson has been useful in defining what it means to repent of one's sins, and in showing God requires us to repent, or we will be lost. There simply is no middle ground. If you have repented of your sins, that is wonderful, because sometimes changing one's life is very difficult. Please note repentance is only one part of God's plan of salvation. Repentance is indeed necessary, but there are other steps on the path to salvation one must take as well, such as baptism. If you have not repented of your sins, I hope you will strongly consider the gravity of continuing on that path and losing your soul.