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## Repentance From Dead Works – PT2

### Overview

- Repentance is more than turning from sin.
- Repentance is a 180-degree turn from all things including
  - Self-ambitions
  - Self-made goals
  - Self desires in this present age
  - Storing treasures here
- Anything that is away from the wisdom of God is to be turned from God

### In this video, we will get deeper

- Why is repentance necessary?
- What are we turning from and towards
- How is Repentance connected to the Kingdom of God

Repentance is a vital life-changing action that is required from the Lord and is somehow connected with the coming of the Kingdom of God.

### *Matthew 4:17*

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

Understanding a fuller picture of the coming of the Kingdom of God allows us to better understand the reason for repenting.

### **Kingdom of God:**

- Is the restoration of all things.
- Jesus will sit His throne and reign as the Righteous King.
- He will judge the living and the dead according to their works.

- He will reward both the good to eternal life and the evil into everlasting damnation.

The Gospel message is founded on the restoration of all things. And that humanity, through turning back to the original ways of God, will produce eternal life under the reign of Jesus Christ.

## What Happened For Repentance To Needed?

Since the Gospel of the Kingdom is a restoration of all things than we can conclude that there was something that was corrupted that needs restoration.

This is the message to the world. This isn't a message only for the Jews, or for some today, this isn't a message for the Gentiles (nations). Remember that it was through Abraham that the promise would come to bless his descendants and the rest of the world.

**For one to fully turn or to have a true change of mind, one must know where his mind is getting changed. And this is the faith in the Living God.**

### **Mark 1:14-15**

Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

It's not enough just to turn but it's important to believe that the day is coming (turn and believe).

- Believing in the coming day of restoration and judgment should convict to turn.
- Believing will help keep your eye fixed on that day.

The cry out to the world was to turn from the world because the world will soon pass away. If you don't, you will perish with it. It was a cry of warning through love that compelled John, Jesus, and all the disciples to preach the gospel this way.

The world in its current state of sin is not at peace with God for God is righteous and cannot and will not dwell with unrighteousness. Through the fall of Man, pride, self-glory, and self ambition have crept into the very being of every Man.

- In this state of sin, man has no hope.
- There are only two sides, God and everything else.
- God is holy and anything outside of that is not good enough. Unless God has mercy on a self-willed, disobedient world, no man can be saved.

## The Fall

Looking at the fall, we can see what true repentance should look like. The Gospel is the restoration of all things, so it is most likely that which was good was corrupted. And the restoration is to bring back to its original state. God is requiring us to come into alignment with Him and with that reality before the great and terrible day of the Lord.

At the beginning, God's dominion was active on Earth.

- He was King over all the earth.
- His rule was established.

He had delegates serving under him who He gave dominion as well. At the same time, there was a deceiver, Satan, who was roaming around the creation of God.

Satan (Lucifer) was found with pride in His heart because he wanted to ascend to the highest to be like God. This desire of the heart, and the mindset was established within himself, and then he began acting upon it. This ultimately caused him to be removed from the presence of God.

Satan, now in a depraved state of mind, came with deception to Man and caused the same rebellion to take place within Man's heart.

The fall of man took place because of a question. A thought planted in the mind of Eve.

- Lucifer did not come to attack Eve's identity as having dominion or inheritance to the earth.
- Her close relationship to the Father was not in question
- He came and planted a thought in her mind.

“Did God really say...”

This new idea was planted in her mind and she had to make a choice. To eat or not to eat. She was faced with these temptations:

- You can receive understanding and knowledge.
- If you partake, you can know just like God knows.

Eve pondered on these things and when she saw the tree was good to “make her wise”, She partook and gave to her husband also. Then they both began to “know” good and evil.

It is from this point, that Man has turned to his own understanding and to his own ways. Man is now turned from God and His wisdom since Man has received his own understanding and this way brings death to Man.

**God has said, “My ways are not your ways.”**

The minds were closed to the truth and are now in need of a clearing of the mind. This is the reason for the first call of repentance. A turning from our own understanding back to the ways of God.

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

***Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.***

Why the call to not lean on our own understanding? It is because this is a big part of the cause of the fall of man. God cannot restore someone whose mind isn't connected to His mind.

- He can offer a free gift.
- How will one receive it if they aren't in agreement?
- When your mind is turned toward God, you are at peace with God.

**1 John 2:15-16**

***Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.***

Complete restoration will require the removal of that fog from our minds. We need to have an alignment with the mind of God. This is the union with God He looks for. To be one with Him. What does that look like?

## Jesus Showed Us Repentance

Thus God sent His Son, Jesus to show the way back to the Father and that was through a denial of one's self, and humility. His example was how to "acknowledge the Father in all our ways and He would direct our path." Jesus repeated phrases such as:

- I do not come to do my will, but my Father's.
- What I see, I do (Not my own understanding)
- I hear from my Father.
- I see from my Father.

### **Philippians 2:5 KJV**

**Let this mind (5426) be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:**

*5426. Phroneó: set your mind..., adopt the view..., concern yourself with...*

And with that, He commands us to be like Him and to Go and share all these things that He has shown us. To make disciples of all nations by commanding them to “turn from their own understanding and turn to God.”

## **Repent from dead works**

The “dead works” to be repented of are works performed by those who are “separated from the life of God” (Ephesians 4:18). These works may be religious in nature, but they are “dead” in that they cannot bring spiritual life. Such works may appear virtuous, but they are not rooted in faith in Christ or love of God and so they are useless in terms of salvation and eternal life.

### **Work That IS Separated From The Life Of God**

*Ephesians 4:17-19*

***So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.***

Some examples of having outwardly good works but that risk being a form of dead works are mindsets such as:

- Church service attendance. “If I attend every week, the Lord is happy with me.”
  - The Lord wants your heart, not attendance.
- Weekly tithing. “I don’t feel like giving a tenth of my money.”
  - We are commanded to give but give with a *cheerful heart*.

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## **One Way Gospel Mission**

To do *anything* with a heart of compulsion or fear is to not have life to it. If it is done without life, it is a “dead work”. Our life comes from the joy of the Lord. All things that we do should be done unto the Lord with a cheerful heart. Paul teaches us to be content in all things no matter the circumstance.

### Work That Produces Death

Another aspect of “Dead Works” is any action that ultimately ends in death. This is called sin and the scriptures state that the payment (wages) to sin is death.

### Closing Verses

*Job 15:35*

*Job 38:36*

*Psalms 7:9*

*Psalms 26:1-2*

*Proverbs 17:20*

*Proverbs 18:2*

*Proverbs 22:17*

*Isaiah 26:2-3*

*Isaiah 65:17-18*

*Jeremiah 17:9-10*

*Matthew 16:22-24*

*Matthew 22:36-38*

*Luke 21:10-15*

*Luke 24:44-45*

*Romans 1:28*

*Romans 7:22-24*

*Colossians 1:21-23*