

## DDS—Repentance (3)

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### Essay

“Repent” is the first word of ministry by John the Baptist in the Gospels, in Matthew 3:2.

“Repent” is the first word of ministry by Jesus in the Gospels, in Matthew 4:17.

Immediately after this first word of ministry is the phrase, “...for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Repentance: merriam-webster.com—the act of repenting...to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one’s life.

God is Perfect Love and Truth.

We are not.

Jesus came to the earth, took on all sin, and allowed Himself to be crucified to destroy the power of sin.

He made a way for us to be reconciled with Our Father.

He invites us to receive His Gift of cleansing from sin.

Cleansed from sin, we can be with Our Perfect Father.

Repentance is turning from sin and turning towards God.

Repentance is preparing for the coming of the Lord.

Psalm 139:23: We are to examine our hearts and invite God to see if there is any hurtful way in us.

James 1:23-25: Looking into the Word, and doing the Word, we will be blessed.

Repentance is recognizing how we are looking towards sin and darkness, and turning to Love and Light.

Repentance is the first action towards receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38: ...“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Repentance is the first action:

1. To have relationship with Our Father
2. To receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
3. To enter the Abundance of the Kingdom of God, and
4. To being transformed to God’s Best.

May we continually and sincerely—Repent.

## Scripture

This is a compilation of some of the Scriptures about the topic, some are a brief summary.

Please check the Scriptures to be sure of accuracy.

The # column is for easier reference. B is the number of the Book as it is listed in the Bible.

Book, C, V, and V is for the Bible Book, the Chapter, the first Verse and, if needed, an end Verse.

#	B	Book	C	V	V	Statement	?
1	41	Mark	1	14	15	Now after John was taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the gospel."	
2	42	Luke	24	47		...repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.	
3	42	Luke	13	3		(Jesus said) "No, I tell you, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish...."	
4	44	Acts	2	38		Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."	
5	44	Acts	17	30		"So having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now proclaiming to mankind that all people everywhere are to repent,..."	
6	44	Acts	3	19	20	"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; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you,..."	
7	44	Acts	26	19	20	"For that reason,...I...continually proclaimed...that they are to repent and turn to God, performing deeds consistent with repentance.	
8	45	Romans	2	4		Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and restraint and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?	
9	47	2 Corinthians	7	10		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.	
10	54	1 Timothy	2	23	26	But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels. The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, skillful in teaching, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.	
11	61	2 Peter	3	9		The Lord is...not willing for any to perish, but for all to come to repentance.	
12	62	1 John	1	8	9	If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous, so that He will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.	

**Perspectives**

The Bible often tells us what to do, but not necessarily how to do it. For example, Romans 13:8 Paul writes that we are to owe nothing but love. However, he does not tell us how to not have, or how to get out of, debt. Today there are ministries to help reduce or eliminate debt. They also guide us in how to not get into debt. These could be considered “Perspectives” to help us do what the Word tells us to do. Here are some perspectives that may help us to understand this topic.

#	B	Book	C	V	V	L	Perspective
							<p><b>Allow Growth</b></p> <p>Allow Growth is a perspective to apply to the transformations we would like for our lives. We gain much in the way of Peace, Patience and Satisfaction (multiple benefits) when we allow the time that is needed for growth.</p> <p>We, especially those of us who are in the American culture, but more and more throughout the world, look for and expect immediate results. However, as we think of the incremental transformations that take place in our lives, we would do well, better, to think of our lives as a Garden, and compare our progress to the way a natural garden grows. Were we to work in a natural garden we would Allow Growth—time is needed to let the seed become a sapling, the sapling to become a shoot, and the shoot to become the stock that will produce the fruit. It is very much the same for our spiritual growth.</p>
							<p><b>Be Boundaried</b></p> <p>If we are not sure what to do or how to be, we have a great resource in the Bible. Jesus said that Love fulfills the Law. The Bible is the Law and gives us the boundaries of how to Love.</p> <p>Much can be gained if we choose to live within these Boundaries of Love, if we choose to “Be Boundaried.”</p>
							<p><b>Belief and Consequences</b></p> <p>What we believe has consequences. Where we might learn for ourselves, or help someone understand errant beliefs, perhaps we and they would be protected from damaging consequences.</p>

**Ideal**

In the ideal, we would learn at the very beginning of our walk with Christ that there is sin.

We would learn that sin is all that is not a part of the Love and Truth that is the Kingdom of God.

We would learn that we need only bring it to God so that He can free us from it.

If we really understood sin, would we be as quick to be rid of it as we are to...

...get rid of lint, or rotten apples, or garden weeds, or mold.

Would we, like a child, turn to God Our Father with a knot we cannot untie and ask Him to do it?

In the ideal, we would know all sin and be diligent in bringing every bit to Him to free us from it.