

"REPENTANCE"
2 Corinthians 7:5-13

INTRODUCTION:

1. Repentance happens when we are brought to a place of personal brokenness about our sin and the consequences of sin.

I. REPENTANCE IS GOOD

1. Repentance is not a pleasant thing to do, but is a good thing to do.

2. **2 Corinthians 7:8a**

a) *"For even if I made you grieve with my letter"*

3. **Vs 8b**

a) *"I do not regret it...though I did regret it"*

4. To get to a better place with God in our lives we must recognize we are in a wrong place in our lives.

5. **Vs 8c**

a) *"for I see that the letter grieved you"*

1) **"grieved"** - to cause pain or distress

6. **VERY IMPORTANT:** But only when we are wounded by the reality of our sinful choices can we begin to experience the renewing power of the Holy Spirit.

7. **Vs 8d**

a) *"though only for a while"*

1) A very short time.

8. **Vs 9**

a) *"As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved"*

b) *"but because you grieved into repenting"*

1) **"Repenting"** - means to change one's mind and purpose

9. **MARK THIS DOWN:** Repenting is a good thing, because that is the moment everything changes.

II. REPENTANCE IS NOT NEW

A. REPENTANCE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

1. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea all called the nation of Israel to repentance

B. REPENTANCE IN THE GOSPELS

1. *Matthew 3:2*

a) *"Repent for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand"*

2. *Mark 6:12* (Jesus commissions his disciples)

3. *Luke 15:7* (When people got saved they repented)

C. JESUS ON REPENTANCE

1. *Revelation 2:1-5*

2. *Revelation 2:16*

3. *Revelation 3:19*

III. REPENTANCE COMES FROM THE WHOLE PERSON

1. **Here's a good definition:**

a) Repentance is recognition of my sin for what it is.
(That is I recognize it in my mind) - Intellect

b) Followed by heartfelt sorrow.
(That is a change in my heart) - emotion

c) Then followed by a change in my behavior.
(That is changing my will) - will

IV. FIVE CLEAR EVIDENCES OF REPENTANCE

A. YOU EXPERIENCE GRIEF OVER SIN

1. *2 Corinthians 7:9-10*

a) *"grief"* - distress over sin

2. John 10:10

3. **WOW!!!** At the heart of every choice to sin is a rejection of God.

4. Every time I choose to do wrong I tell God that He is just not enough.

B. YOU ARE REPULSED

1. 2 Corinthians 7:11

a) *"For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you"*

1) "see" - means to behold

2) "earnestness" - implies diligence

2. When I really repent, I have a serious energy to put sin out of my life.

C. YOU MAKE RESTITUTION

1. When you are truly repentant you have an immediate desire to make things right with the one you have wounded.

2. Luke 19:8

D. YOU EXPERIENCE REVIVAL

1. 2 Corinthians 7:11

a) *"but also what eagerness to clear yourselves"*

1) This is a strong desire to remove the stigma of sin.

b) *"what indignation"*

1) This is an outrage over your sin, to be angry of the shame they brought upon themselves.

c) *"what fear"*

1) They came to the point of fear and awe of a holy God who chastens and judges.

d) *"what longing"*

1) A strong desire to restore broken relationships

e) *"what zeal"*

1) Zeal in a revived heart is an increased passion for the overall things of God.

f) "***what punishment***"

1) Truly repentant people have a strong desire to see justice done and to make restitution of the wrongs they have committed.

E. YOU HAVE NO REGRETS

1. Vs 10

2. When repentance is genuine, the human heart experiences a cleansing; and by God's grace, it moves beyond punishment that's stuck in the past.

3. Vs 9

a) "***so you suffered no loss from us***"

CONCLUSION:

1. Vs 10

a) "***whereas worldly grief produces death***"