

Repentance: Is God Changing Me? When your thinking and living needs to change!

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I. Etymology of Biblical Repentance

A. The meaning of the word itself

1. The word "repent" basically means to _____ or to _____.
2. It is best illustrated by the picture of someone who is walking _____ but does a "_____" and heads in the _____ direction.

B. The meaning for the unbeliever

1. Repentance is a necessary component of genuine _____. (Luke 3:3; 2 Cor.7:10)
2. Unsaved people must _____ from sin, which is the state of _____ - _____ they have lived in as their own lord and master. (Rom.10:9; 1 John 3:4)

C. The meaning for the believer

1. Repentance also remains continually necessary after _____. (Psalm 51; Luke 17:3-4)
2. Saved persons must _____ from sins, which are the specific symptoms of the lingering disease called "_____." (Rom.7:14-25; Galatians 5:16-17)

D. The meaning to the Lord Himself

1. All true human repentance has reference to a _____ from the state or occurrence of _____ and _____ to _____ for forgiveness and renewal.
2. Scripture often alludes to a _____ repentance that does not actually bring _____ (e.g. Matt.3:7-8; 2 Cor.7:10b), so we must understand some elements, effects, and examples of repentance in order to practice it ourselves and help others do so as well.

II. Elements of Biblical Repentance

A. Comprehending

1. You must understand the _____ relevant to your _____ and your Savior before you can repent.
2. The Hebrew word most often translated "repentance" is *subah* (שׁוּבָה), which means "to _____" or "_____ " (i.e. to God).
3. The Greek word most often translated "repentance" is *metanoia* (μετάνοια), which denotes "a _____."



B. Confessing

1. The two-fold nature of inward confession is revealed in the meaning of the Greek verb *homologeō* (ὁμολογῶμεν), “to say the _____” (as God says about it).
2. We must acknowledge to God the _____ of our sin and agree with God about the _____ of our sin. (Prov.28:13; 1John 1:8-9)

C. Choosing

1. True repentance always includes a willful _____ to not _____ the sin. (cf. Isaiah 1:16-17; Luke 5:27-28)
2. This is an act of the _____ and not a _____ because it stems from your understanding of your own _____ nature in light of the gospel.

III. Effects of Biblical Repentance

A. Restitution

1. The word means "to set _____" - the repentant sinner must fulfill any obligations to the offended party. (Ex. 22:1; Lev.5:15; Luke 19:1-10)
2. This includes both an outward _____ when it is appropriate (James 5:16) and a willingness to accept the _____ of our sin. (Ps. 51:3-4)

B. Reconciliation

1. When your sin has resulted in a _____ relationship with another, true repentance will cause you to do whatever you can to transform the conflict into a _____ and _____ friendship (Matt.5:24; Rom.12:18; 2 Cor.2:7-8).
2. Rebuilding _____ relationships is an important evidence of _____ repentance.

C. Regret

1. True repentance may not always be accompanied by _____ (especially those that are visible to others), but in many cases a feeling of _____ corroborates other evidences and points to a real change in thinking. (Ps. 51; Job 42:6)
2. Emotional responses alone, however, do not prove that repentance is _____. (cf. 1 Sam. 15:27; 2 Cor.7:10b)

Caution: We must remember that not every case of repentance requires all of the above changes, and we also must be very careful to allow the fruits of repentance to be defined by God rather than by man (Mark 7:6-13; 1Corinthians 4:5-6).

