



Rebar 102 Repentance and Forgiveness

Luke 24:44-48 NLT

Then He said, “When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And He said, “Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: **‘There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.’** You are witnesses of all these things.

We are not teaching on apologizing, we are teaching on biblical repentance and forgiveness...

Forgiveness came first:

If you repent and there is no forgiveness you get nothing...

without forgiveness there is no repentance...

without grace and mercy there is no forgiveness...

without love there is no grace and mercy...

God has supplied all we need for a victorious life here on earth as it is in Heaven,

IN ABUNDANCE !!

First mention of “forgive” in OT and NT:

Genesis 50:16-21 NLT

“So they sent this message to Joseph: ‘Before your father died, he instructed us to say to you: ‘Please **forgive** your brothers for the great wrong they did to you—for their sin in treating you so cruelly.’ So we, the servants of the God of your father, beg you to **forgive** our sin.’” When Joseph received the message, he broke down and wept. Then his brothers came and threw themselves down before Joseph. “Look, we are your slaves!” they said. But Joseph replied, “Don’t be afraid of me. Am I God, that I can punish you? You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people. No, don’t be afraid. I will continue to take care of you and your children.” So he reassured them by speaking kindly to them.

Matt 6:15 NLT

“If you **forgive** those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will **forgive** you. But if you **refuse to forgive** others, your Father will **not forgive** your sins.”

Definition of Forgive, Forgave, Forgiveness

Vine's Expository Dictionary

aphiemi (verb)

primarily, to send forth, send away" denotes, besides its other meanings, "to remit or forgive" (a) debts, [Matthew 6:12](#); [Matthew 18:27](#), [Matthew 18:32](#), these being completely cancelled; (b) sins, e.g., [Matthew 9:2](#), [Matthew 9:5](#)-[Matthew 9:6](#); [Matthew 12:31](#)-[Matthew 12:32](#); [Acts 8:22](#) ("the thought of thine heart"); [Romans 4:7](#); [James 5:15](#); [1 John 1:9](#); [1 John 2:12](#). In this latter respect the verb, like its corresponding noun (below), firstly signifies the remission of the punishment due to sinful conduct, the deliverance of the sinner from the penalty Divinely, and therefore righteously, imposed; secondly, it involves the complete removal of the cause of offense; such remission is based upon the vicarious and propitiatory sacrifice of Christ. In the OT atoning sacrifice and "forgiveness" are often associated, e.g., [Leviticus 4:20](#), [Leviticus 4:26](#). The verb is used in the NT with reference to trespasses (paraptoma), e.g., [Matthew 6:14](#)-[Matthew 6:15](#); sins (hamartia), e.g., [Luke 5:20](#); debts, [Matthew 6:12](#); [Matthew 18:32](#), [Matthew 18:27](#); the thought of the heart, [Acts 8:22](#). kalupto, "to cover," [1 Peter 4:8](#); [James 5:20](#); and epikalupto, "to cover over," [Romans 4:7](#), representing the Hebrew words for "atonement."

Vine's Expository Dictionary continued...

aphesis (noun)

denotes "a dismissal, release"; it is used of the remission of sins, and translated "forgiveness" in [Mark 3:29](#); [Ephesians 1:7](#); [Colossians 1:14](#), and in [Acts 5:31](#); [Acts 13:38](#); [Acts 26:18](#), in each of these "remission" is used. Eleven times it is followed by "of sins," and once by "of trespasses." It is especially connected with the Year of Jubilee ([Leviticus 25:10](#), etc.). In [Luke 4:18](#), "release" for the significance in connection with remission of sins and the propitiatory sacrifice of Christ.

Human "forgiveness" is to be strictly analogous to Divine "forgiveness," e.g., [Matthew 6:12](#). If certain conditions are fulfilled, there is no limitation to Christ's law of "forgiveness," [Matthew 18:21](#)-[Matthew 18:22](#). The conditions are repentance and confession, [Matthew 18:15](#)-[Matthew 18:17](#); [Luke 17:3](#).

To put it simply you are to forgive others just as you have been forgiven !!

Why should we forgive



1. All of us are in need of forgiveness... Rom 3:23
2. Forgiving others is a prerequisite for our own forgiveness...Matt 6:14-15
3. Lack of forgiveness breaks our fellowship with God...Matt 5:23-24
4. We owe others forgiveness even when they don't ask for it...Matt 18:15
5. We owe forgiveness to those who don't deserve it...Acts 7:59-60
6. We owe others an unlimited amount of forgiveness...Matt 18:21-22
7. There are consequences for choosing not to forgive...Matt 18:34-35
8. Jesus, our ultimate example, practiced forgiveness...John 8:7
9. God gives us the ability to forgive others...Eph 4:32
10. After forgiveness, comes love – even if forgetting isn't possible...1Pet 3:8

Forgiveness is the doorway to FREEDOM...

I look and behold a door was open in Heaven...
Rev 4:1

It is time to rise up and enter

1. Webster's...defines repentance as the action or process of repenting especially for misdeeds or moral shortcomings
2. Webster's Collegiate...defines repentance as "repenting or being penitent; feeling of sorrow, especially for wrongdoing; compunction; contrition; remorse."
3. Ferdmán Bible Dictionary...defines repentance in its fullest sense as "a complete change of orientation involving a judgment upon the past and a deliberate redirection for the future."

A biblical definition based on the scriptural context of repentance is to make a change of mind, heart, and action, by turning away from sin and self and returning to God.

steps to repentance

1. Sorrow

- Before we can repent, 2 Corinthians 7 teaches we must have godly sorrow. Thus, step one to truly repenting is to experience godly sorrow, grief over our sin. Our sin must become a burden, a weight, we no longer desire to carry. We must see it's repugnant, a stench in God's nostrils. Godly sorrow leads to us viewing sin the way God does.

2. Confess

- We must then confess our sin before God because he is “...faithful and just to forgive us of our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). We can also confess our faults to a trusted friend or spiritual advisor (see James 5:16) so that we can be healed.

3. Turn

- When we have godly sorrow and confess our sin, we can then repent. Repentance is turning away from sin. Repentance is stopping whatever we're doing that isn't pleasing in God's sight. Repentance is choosing God's way instead of ours. Regardless of what sin(s) you've committed, you can repent right now, if you have godly sorrow for it.

4. Holiness

- The last step in repentance is choosing holiness every day. Just because we repent doesn't mean the temptation to sin won't arise again in our lives. Thus, we have to **choose** holiness and righteousness daily.

Benefits of Repentance and Forgiveness

- **Blessings**
- **Freedom**
- **Improved Health**
- **Better Mental Health**
- **Improved Relationships**
- **Healing**
- **Living in the Present**

I baptize with water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am so much greater that I'm not worthy even to be his slave and carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. **(Matthew 3:11)**

From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."
(Matthew 4:17)

Then Jesus began to denounce the towns where he had done so many of his miracles, because they hadn't repented of their sins and turned to God. **(Matthew 11:20)**

The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News! **(Mark 1:15)**

Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God. Don't just say to each other, 'We're safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.' That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones. **(Luke 3:8)**

I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners and need to repent. **(Luke 5:32)**

Not at all! And you will perish, too, unless you repent of your sins and turn to God...No, and I tell you again that unless you repent, you will perish, too. **(Luke 13:3-5)**

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (**Romans 3:23**)

“For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses” (**Matthew 6: 14-15**)

“So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift” (**Matthew 5: 23-24**)

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother” (**Matthew 18: 15**)

“And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep” (**Acts 7: 59-60**)

“Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven” (**Matthew 18: 21-22**)

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you” (**Ephesians 4:32**)

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins” (**1 Peter 4:8**)