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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

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SPEAKERS

Baruch Korman, Intro Voice

Intro Voice 00:03

Shalom, and welcome to via after yisrayl A Hebrew phrase which means you shall love Israel. We hope you'll stay with us for the next 30 minutes as our teacher Dr. Baruch shares his expository teaching from the Bible. Dr. Baruch is the senior lecturer at the Zerah Avraham Institute based in Israel. Although all courses are taught in Hebrew at the institute, Dr. Baruch is pleased to share this weekly address in English. To find out more about our work in Israel. Please visit us on the web at love Israel dot o RG That's one word love Israel dot o RG. Now, here's Baroque with today's lesson.

Baruch Korman 00:42

John, the Baptists called people to repentance. And that message of repentance is still just as valid today, nearly 2000 years later. So the question that you and I should ask ourselves is this have we truly repented? Now God knows all things. He knows whether you had been sincere or not. But the sad fact of the matter is this today, because Bible teaching has become watered down. It has been greatly influenced by the world rather than the authority of Scripture. And because of that, many people do not know what is true and sincere repentance. So let me ask you again. Have you properly repented? My opinion, your opinion, doesn't matter. It is God who is judge. And when we look at the scriptures, we see clearly what repentance is, well take out your Bible, and look with me to the book of Luke, and chapter three, the book of Luke and chapter three. Now we're going to see as we begin this lesson, in verse seven, that there were many individuals coming to John, in order to be immerse that is baptize by him, and this baptism of repentance. And before we talk about that, we need to get something straight. And that's this. One is saved, not by good works, not by performance, not by obedience, we are saved by the grace of God. And we access that grace, by faith, four by faith you had been saved, not of works, lest anyone should boast. But here's the problem. We think times think that because faith is what saves, that God doesn't care about works. Well, when we look at the Scripture, we see that he does. Here's the truth that we need to acknowledge. When one is saved by faith. It is a free gift. You do not earn it, he earned it for you, who's that? Messiah, Yeshua, Jesus Christ. And he did that which was all sufficient, and eternally sufficient in order to give us eternal redemption. That means that once one is saved by that grace through faith, he will always have eternal life. It's not dependent upon you and me. It's dependent upon what he did on that cross him shedding His blood, and becoming that Passover redemption for us, that brings us into the kingdom of God, and we will be there because of him, not

anything that we have done. Now, repentance does not involve works. Repentance, is when we agree with God. How, according to his standards, and it's the Torah. Let me say it another way. It is the law of God, I can say it's still another way. It is the commandments of God, that show us that we are sinners, meaning the commandments reveal the standards of God. And the first process of repentance is this. We agree with those standards. And when we do, we are forced to acknowledge that we are sinners. Let me say that an additional way. It shows us our absolute need for God It's mercy, his grace for Him to forgive us. So the law of God convicts us that we are sinners and in need of a Savior. And salvation comes about when one does something, when one confesses that they are a sinner, that they believe in the all sufficient work of Messiah upon that cross, and they invite Messiah into their life to save them, to acknowledge Him as Lord God Almighty. And not just that he died upon that cross, but having been buried, He rose from the dead. So we need to believe that we're sinners, we need to believe that what he did upon that cross is all sufficient. And we need to believe that he was raised from the dead by God the Father, that is what's necessary to be saved. It has nothing to do with our good works. It is a free gift. So we agree with the standards of God, and what happens? We are changed. The Bible speaks about us becoming a new creation. Theologian speak of this as being regenerated. What does the word of God say? Anyone who has found in Messiah, or course, found by means of faith through that gospel, they are a new creation. And because we're a new creation, because that we have been saved by God's grace, we are going to be different, we are going to think differently, we are going to agree with God and we are going to want to serve him. What does that mean? It means turning away from sin. We don't want to serve sin. We want to serve the living God. We want to do those things that bring honor to him. So Repentance is a change of heart. Heart is synonymous with our concept today of the mind. Repentance is a change of the mind, when we are not agreeing with the world. We do not want to live in sin. But we accept God's standards, and we want to embrace them, and serve Him in obedience to them. But up until this time, nothing has changed in behavior. It is not until one is regenerated. I can say that another way. It's not until one is born again, becoming that new creation and Messiah having been born again, we're going to be haev differently, we will agree with God and we will want to implement his word into our life. And this is what John is emphasizing to those who come to his baptism. First, a baptism of repentance, meaning they agree with the standards of God, they agree that they are sinners, and therefore in need of a Savior. And that's why John said, I'm not the one who has Messiah, but the one coming after me. This is the one whom you are called to believe in to receive he is the Redeemer. And when we have such faith, it is going to bring about a change what type of change? Well, let's look at this first verse, that we're going to begin with Luke chapter three. And verse seven, we read here. Therefore, he was saying to the ones coming out of the crowd, to be baptized by him. Notice what he said,

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a generation of serpents. Now, this is not a compliment. He sees certain individuals, primarily leaders coming out. And by means of discernment, he knew that they were not sincere. They were coming out why? Because everyone acknowledged that John was a prophet. People looked at him his manner of life, his humility, the simple things that he sought for his sustenance was not trying to impress In the world, but to walk humbly and righteously with God, so because everyone saw him as a prophet, these leaders, they also came out to him. But were they sincere? Well, according to John's discernment, notice what he says, he uses a term for a generation or an offspring of serpents. He says, Who has warned you to flee from this, this coming wrath. Now let's pause for a moment and acknowledge

something. Wrath, the wrath of God is real. And the wrath of God is coming upon this world. If you do not believe that, then you are outside the faith, because the word of God here and many other places say that the wrath of God is coming. And the wrath of God must come and bring about destruction of evil, in order that the kingdom be established. So if you reject the wrath of God, that there's no wrath of God, that this world is going to be transformed and converted, and everything's going to be put into order. And then Messiah is going to come. Nowhere. Nowhere is that found in the Scripture, those who have that type of belief, they spiritualize and symbolize everything in the scripture to justify what they want to hear. But it is not authentic scripture. It is not embracing the simple understanding of God's word. It's twisting God's Word in order to hear what one wants to hear. Now, look on to the next verse. He speaks about the coming wrath, and what should we want to do? Well, if we truly have repented, and we're going to believe in this one who was coming the Redeemer that is Messiah, we're going to want to be sincere. And this repentance and sincere repentance will produce something. What is that? Look at verse eight, therefore, make fruit and it's in the plural fruits. And it's speaking about that which is abundant. So make, we could say abundant fruit, worthy of repentance. So we see two things, there is repentance. And then the outcome of sincere, truthful, genuine repentance is that we're going to live differently. But our salvation is not based upon how we live. It is our salvation that causes us to live differently. Did you hear that distinction? It is so important. It's the foundation of our faith. We are saved by grace, not of works. But when we agree with God, and we have faith in that one who from this standpoint would be coming Messiah coming soon and soon and that generation, when one believes in Him, His death, burial and the resurrection, then that one is going to be saved. And the moment here this carefully, the moment that one is saved, he is also regenerated, that is with salvation, not before. But with salvation, comes regeneration, you become that new creation in Messiah, and you begin to reflect, live out your faith. You're not saved by living out your faith, you are saved in order to live out your faith. That's the distinction. So look at what the scripture says. Therefore, he says, make fruit worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say among yourselves, we have father Abraham, why? Now they were just thinking that because of a natural birth, they were descendants physical descendants of Abraham. And they thought that because of that, that secured their kingdom entrance, it did not. The faith of Abraham secures that kingdom in entrance. What is that faith to believe in the seed of Abraham? And Paul tells us in Galatians chapter three and verse 16, that ultimately that seed of Abraham is indeed, Messiah. So believing in Messiah, Abraham believed in that coming Redeemer, and therefore from our time allotment, we know he has already come, he's done that work of redemption. He has done what's necessary to be the Savior, and here this, the Savior of the world. All that's left for you to do is to receive Him by faith into your life. As I said, confessing your sin, acknowledging your need of a Savior, seeking that saviors, mercy and forgiveness, that grace, which causes us to be eternally change, that new kingdom creation, and when we are regenerated by faith, through that name, your shoe, whether we say your shoe, or Jesus, or haces, whatever language you speak, when you acknowledge that one, Jesus of Nazareth, you are going to be changed forever, you are going to become that kingdom creation by faith through that gospel message. So what does he say here, do not begin to say among yourselves, we have father Abraham, four, I say to you that God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. So God, he's able to take stones to take Gentiles to take whomever, as long as they submit to that means of salvation, the means of salvation, Messiah did not you not me, Messiah did the work of salvation, we simply receive it. But when we do genuinely, sincerely in faith, it is going to change us eternally. And we are going to have eternal redemption. We're going to have eternal life in the kingdom of God. And now, in this world, at this age,

we are called to live righteously. What does that mean? live according to the kingdom standards, and those Kingdom standards are found in the Word of God, and the instructions of God and the commandments of God. This is what John is teaching. Look at verse nine. But already, also, the axe has been laid at the root of the tree. therefore every tree that is not producing good fruit

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is cut down and into the fire cast. Now, what is this? A another reference to the wrath of God? So when one is saved, that that new creation in Messiah by Faith is going to produce fruit? What is that good works? Are we saved by good works? No, we are not. But having been saved, having become that new creation, we are going to agree with God. And we are going to want to serve God that's our new nature. When one is born again, he is a new creation to serve God again. Does that service save us? No. But that service testifies those good works is a witness that we have been saved, and we belong to the King of kings and the Lord of lords. And his life becomes our life. What does that mean? We begin to live to do to behave, what he would do, and what does that obey his father? That's what we're called to do. And how do we do that? Through obeying the Word of God? Verse 10. And the crowd was asking him saying, therefore, what should we do? Now? Here again, he's speaking and teaching about bearing fruit that's worthy of repentance. It's very important that we understand the subject. This passage is not teaching us how How to be saved. It's teaching us how one who has truly repented will demonstrate that this one has truly repented. And now we find that John is going to give some examples, how someone who truly has repented how that repentance manifests itself in their behavior. And what does he say? Well, they asked him, What should we do? And look at verse 11. And he answers saying to them, the one who has to tunics, let him give to the one that does not have. So it's showing something via hafta, the array of kamaoa. Love your neighbor as yourself. Now, that's the foundation of the law. And when we apply the truth of the law to our life, the commandments of God, we're going to demonstrate righteousness. Are we saved by demonstrating righteousness? No, we're not. But having been saved by grace, that free gift, we are going to desire that new nature, being regenerated being that new creation is going to cause us to demonstrate righteousness. Why? That's who we are. We belong to a kingdom of righteousness. So we will want to live righteously. Now, will we stumble at times? Yes, we will. Will we fail at times? Yes, we will. Will we be at times rebellious? Sometimes we will. But just like the parable of the two sons, one was asked to go out into the vineyard and work. He says, No, I won't do it. But afterwards, over time, he repented, and did just that. So we can be just like him at times, disobedient, stubborn, selfish, rebellious, but that Holy Spirit is going to work upon us and he is going to bring us to repentance and true repentance will produce evidence of our faith. And that's why this this son went out into the vineyard to work. So he says, the one having two tunics, let him give to the one that has none. And the one having food likewise, let him do verse 12. And came also the tax collectors to be baptize. And they said to him, Teacher, what shall we do? Now they want to repent, and repentance is going to manifest itself with a change of action. True repentance, always produce a change of behavior. We're not saved by that change, but having been saved, there's going to be that change. And what does he say to them? Look, if you were to verse 13. And he said to them, no more than has been appointed to you to collect. So here don't take more than required. Now, what did tax collectors do at that time? Well, they had the amount that they had to collect. And whatever they get in excess of that, that was their salary. what John is saying is this, don't participate with the enemy. Do not exploit your friends, your fellow Jews, don't take more than has been appointed by by the Romans for you to take. Now, what would that mean? It wouldn't be advantageous to be a tax collector. And

what would they do? Based upon this, they wouldn't participate with that evil empire or Rome. And that's a message for us that we too are not called to participate with an evil empire and that evil empire of the Antichrist is drawing closer and closer. Likewise, look at verse 14. And also the soldiers were asking him saying, and us, what should we do? Do you see that emphasis always on what we should do? The doing that emphasis? And he said to them, Do not and this is Word for for extorting. It's a word of of threatening someone with violence in order that they do what you would have them to do. So he's telling the soldiers do not threaten people with violence in order to take from them and do not defraud or do not accuse falsely. But what he says, Look at the end of verse 14, but you be content or satisfied with your wage. Now, what he's saying here is this, we ought not be people that seek after the things of this world, we're not going to, to temporarily behave ungodly for a reward in this world. Why? Because we're not interested in this world, we know that this world is going to be destroyed by the wrath of God. Our hope is not in material things, but our hope is in the kingdom of God. And our life is going to reflect that. That's the message of this texts, that repentance agrees with God, repentance and faith, and Messiah is going to bring about regeneration, causing you to be that new creation. And that is going to this change this salvation experience, which which is accompanied with the indwelling Holy Spirit, He is going to to teach you all truth, he is going to be that spirit of righteousness, and you are going to behave righteously, all the time perfectly. Well, that's the objective. He says, Be perfect. That's what we should strive for. But obviously, there will be times that we stumble, that we fail, that we are deceived, that we allow our flesh to lead us rather than the spirit, but they should be the exceptions and not the norm. So let me ask you again, have you TRULY repented? It's when you truly repent, you're going to understand your need for the Savior. And there's only one savior, Messiah, Yeshua, Jesus Christ. And if you have not received Him, you are without hope. But here's the good news. You can do so right now. Receive that gospel and secure for eternity, your reservation in the kingdom of God while close with that Shalom from Israel.

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Well, we hope you will benefit from today's message and share it with others please plan to join us each week at this time and on this channel for our broadcast of love israel.org again to find out more about us please visit our website love Israel dot o RG there you will find articles and numerous other lectures by Varun. These teachings are in video for may download them or watch them in streaming video. Until next week, may the Lord bless you in our Messiah Yeshua. That is Jesus as you walk with it. Shalom from Israel.