

# REPENTANCE

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## A. What is the first word of the gospel?

The first word of the gospel is \_\_\_\_\_

The second word is \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 1:15)

You can tell that repentance is important because it is mentioned over 60 times in the New Testament alone.

1. Jesus's first message was repentance. (Matthew 4:17)
2. John's first message was repentance. (Matthew 3:1-8)
3. The twelve apostles preached repentance. (Mark 6:7-13)

Repentance is the first step in the believer's life. God commands it. If this foundation is not properly laid, the whole structure of our Christian walk will be shaky, and we will be unable to stand the tests and trials that will inevitably come.

## B. What is the proper root of repentance?

Matthew 3:8 speaks of the \_\_\_\_\_ of repentance. The root meaning of the word repentance is a change of mind, a change of heart and attitude, on what you believe on any given subject to what God has revealed to you on that subject. It means a complete turnaround, a change of direction.

The fall brought about in man a mindset that is in rebellion against God and His law, a mind which desires to go its own way (Isaiah 53:6).

Ern Baxter defines repentance as:

Repentance is the informing and changing of the mind; the stirring and directing of the emotions to urge the required change; and the action of the will in turning the whole man away from sin and unto God.

## C. What are some false concepts concerning repentance?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (John 16:8, Acts 24:24-25)

Conviction precedes repentance, but not all who are convicted repent.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 7:10)

Worldly sorrow is simply being sorry "for getting caught", but not being sorry for the crime committed.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

Reformation is turning over a new leaf, but it is not genuine repentance.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 5:20, 3:7-12)

The Pharisees in Christ's day were extremely religious, yet they were hypocrites. They never experienced repentance.

5. \_\_\_\_\_ (James 2:19-20)

Mental faith is merely a mental acceptance or attitude to a set of creeds or doctrines, but without any change in your lifestyle, so you still live the way you use to because you have not truly repented.

**D. Why we need to repent?**

1. God \_\_\_\_\_ it (Acts 17:30).
2. It was the reason Christ came into the world (Luke 5:32).
3. It is necessary to avoid \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 13:3,5).
4. It is necessary for \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 3:19).
5. It is necessary for entering the Kingdom (Matthew 4:17).
6. It is Gods desire for all men (2 Peter 3:9).

**E. Principles that relate to repentance:**

1. The Will - (Revelation 2:22) Repentance is an act of your will.
2. Faith - (Acts 20:21) Faith is involved in repentance. God wants you to believe and exercise faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord.
3. Conversion - (Acts 3:19) Repent and be converted.

**F. What are some of the fruits of genuine repentance?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Corinthians 7:9)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 1:9)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (Ezekiel 36:31)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 19:8)

Without these fruits being evident in our life, there is no genuine repentance in the biblical sense. Repentance is not a once only thing. It needs to continue as part of our Christian life. As God shows us what areas we need to deal with in our lives we need to confess, repent and put our lives right.