

Good News! The Story of our Salvation Part 4

Please Stand and open your bibles to 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

At the end of our study of the book of Matthew we were told...

Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

And what was it He commanded them?

Mark 16:15

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

So, if this is the command for the church today, we want to make sure we get this right. If we get it wrong, it could have eternal consequence. This is why we are embarking on our study...

Good News! The Story of Our Salvation

What is the Gospel?

How is it Preached?

How is it Received?

How is it Received?

- What does it mean to Repent?
- What does it mean to Believe?
 - By Grace
 - Through Faith
 - How to be Born Again
- The Holy Spirit's work in Salvation
 - God's Part
 - Man's Part
- What is Justification?
 - A finished work
 - Forever secured

What Does it Mean to Repent?

- Original Greek Meaning
- English Meaning and History
- Use in Classical Greek and Koine Greek outside the Bible
- A use in the Septuagint
- History of NT Translations Metanoia
- Context, Context, Context
- The Plague of Works Based Religion

Our scripture we gleaned from last week was...

Acts 17:30-31

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness

by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

- Original Greek Meaning

Repent:

Metanoeo – Verb – Strong’s 3340

Meta = Change or transform

Noeo = The mind, to perceive, to understand

Repetance:

Metanoia – Noun – Strong’s 3341

Meta = Change or transform

Noia = The mind, to perceive, to understand

Acts 17:30

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent (Change your mind or way of thinking)

- English Meaning and History

Webster 1828 Dictionary

REPENT'ANCE, n.

1. Sorrow for any thing done or said; the pain or grief which a person experiences in consequence of the injury or inconvenience produced by his own conduct.
2. In theology, the pain, regret or affliction which a person feels on account of his past conduct, because it exposes him to punishment. This sorrow proceeding merely from the fear of punishment, is called legal repentance, as being excited by the terrors of legal penalties, and it may exist without an amendment of life.
3. Real penitence; sorrow or deep contrition for sin, as an offense and dishonor to God, a violation of his holy law, and the basest ingratitude towards a Being of infinite benevolence. This is called evangelical repentance, and is accompanied and followed by amendment of life.

Wow, that has gotten far from the original meaning
Why?

Merriam-Webster Online –

Intransitive verb

1: to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one's life

2: a: to feel regret or contrition

b: to change one's mind

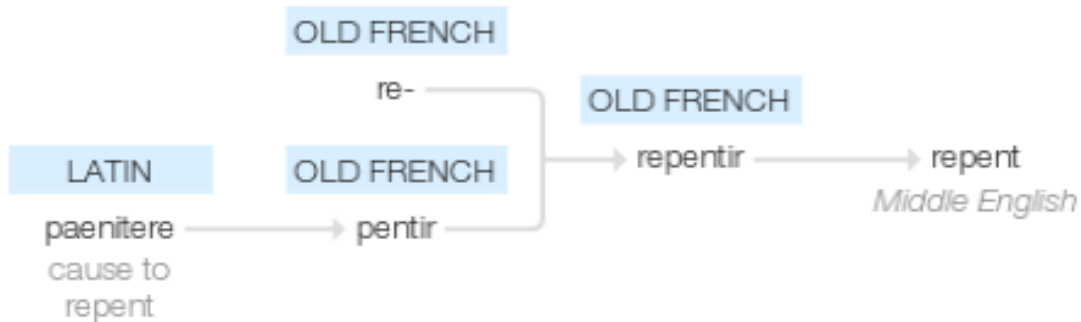
Transitive verb

1: to cause to feel regret or contrition

2: to feel sorrow, regret, or contrition for

What * is the History?

Origin



So, we see the origin is from the Latin for Penance. We will have more on that in a minute.

- Use in Classical Greek and Koine Greek outside the Bible

http://helpmewithbiblestudy.org/9Salvation/RepentNTLexicalConsiderations_Wilkin.aspx

2 Examples * of use in Classical Greek

Thucydides used the term when writing about the response of the Athenian council to a revolt. The council decided that all of the men of the city of Mytilene were to be put to death--not merely those who participated in the revolt. However, on "the next day a change of heart came over them." (1) The Athenian council changed its mind. It decided that only those who participated in the rebellion should be put to death.

Another example is found in Xenophon's use of our term. He wrote:

We were inclined to conclude that for man, as he is constituted, it is easier to rule over any and all other creatures than to rule over men. But when we reflected that there was one Cyrus, the Persian, who reduced to obedience a vast number of men and cities and nations, we were then compelled to **change our opinions** and decide that to rule men might be a task neither impossible nor even difficult, if one should only go about it in an intelligent manner.

2 Examples * of Koine Greek

Polybius (ca. 208-126 BC) used *metanoia* to refer to the Dardani, a people who had decided to attack Macedonia while Philip was away with his army. However, Philip caught wind of it and returned quickly. Even though the Dardani were close to Macedonia, when they heard that Philip was coming, they changed their minds. They broke off the attack before it even began.

Plutarch, who lived and wrote in the late first and early second century AD, wrote:

"Cypselus, the father of Periander... when he was a new-born babe, smiled at the men who had been sent to make away with him, and they turned away. And when again they **changed their minds**, they sought for him and found him not, for he had been put away in a chest by his mother."

You * can see in all of these uses that the person or persons had thought one way and with further information changed their minds of their way of thinking.

- A Use in the Septuagint

When the Lord decided to take the kingdom from King Saul He instructed Samuel to say, "He will not turn nor change His mind, for He is not as a man that He should change His mind" (1 Sam [1 Kingdoms in the Septuagint] 15:29; translation mine).

- History of NT Translations Metanoia

The Old Latin

The Latin Fathers translated metanoia as paenitentia, which came to mean "penance" or "acts of penance." They felt that in order to obtain eternal salvation men had to perform righteous acts of penance as prescribed by one's confessor priest.

The Latin Vulgate

Jerome established this Old Latin translation as authoritative when he retained paenitentia as the translation of metanoia. The system of penance became an established pathway whereby one hoped to obtain grace.

Early English Versions

John Wycliffe, "the Morning Star of the Reformation," pioneered the first complete English Bible in the late 1300's. Unfortunately his work was not based on the original Greek and Hebrew, but was a very literal translation of the Vulgate. Hence we should not be surprised that he translated the Latin *agite paenitentiam* as "do penance." This was adopted in 1609-1610 in the Roman Catholic Douay Version.

William Tyndale produced the first printed English NT in 1526. He used *repent* and *repentance* for *metanoia* and *metanoieo*, a great improvement over "do penance," but still misleading in many contexts.

Later English versions, including the Authorized or King James Version of 1611, were deeply indebted to Tyndale's phraseology, including his *repent* and *repentance*.

Modern Translations

Modern translators also generally translate *metanoia* as *repentance*. While this is an improvement over the Latin translation "penance," it is in most cases, as we have seen, a poor reflection of its meaning in the NT.

- Context, Context, Context

J the B

Matthew 3:7-9

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance (A Changed Mind), 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

Jesus to Israel

Mark 1:15

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent (Change your Mind), and believe in the gospel.”

The Sinning Brother

Luke 17:3-4

Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents (Change his mind that he was wrong), forgive him. 4 And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, ‘I repent (I have changed my mind, I was wrong),’ you shall forgive him.”

Simon the Sorcerer

Acts 8:22

Repent (Change your mind that God’s gifts could be purchased) therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the **thought of your heart** may be forgiven you.

Paul the Apostle to the elders

Acts 20:20-21

how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house, 21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance (A Changed Mind) toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Questions * to consider in the context.

Acts 26:19-20

“Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but declared first to those in Damascus and in Jerusalem, and throughout all the region of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent (Change their mind), turn to God, and do works befitting repentance (Of a changed mind).”

Notice that works are a product of metanoia and not the source of it?

Revelation 2:5

Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent (Change your mind) and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent (Change your mind).

Again, we see the action of works separated from the use of Metanoia. You are to change your mind and do.

- The Plague of Works Based Religion

***People are misusing the word repent to tell people to “Turn from your sins.”

People are misusing the word repent to say you have to have deep sorrow for your sins (This may happen but not always the case)

This is a plague passed down from the Catholic church through the reformers to some modern evangelicals.

Since salvation is not by works at all and only by grace do we see this worked out in the New Testament. Let’s close today with one last story to show you it is by grace through faith.

Jesus and the Paralytic
Matthew 9:1-8

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. 2 Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.”

3 And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, “This Man blasphemes!”

4 But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? 5 For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise and walk’? 6 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins” —then He said to

the paralytic, “Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” 7
And he arose and departed to his house.

8 Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified
God, who had given such power to men.

I have always asked myself about why Jesus says this but now
with what we know it is easy to see that Jesus did not want any
works to get in the way His saving work. If he would have said it
the other way the man would have thought it was his action that
brought God’s favor but by forgiving him first, he shows us the
pattern.

Titus 3:3-7

For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived,
serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy,
hateful and hating one another. 4 But when the kindness and the
love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of
righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He
saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of
the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through
Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace
we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Acts 16:31

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved”

That is all He asks,
What are you waiting for?