

**INTRODUCTION.**

- A. Scripture text: **Luke 15:1-10.**
- B. This is a sermon on repentance.
- C. I believe that repentance is the most difficult part of man's conversion.
- D. It is something that must be done every day to help insure salvation.

**I. REPENTANCE IS ESSENTIAL TO SALVATION.**

- A. God wants all mankind to repent (Ac. 17:30).
- B. God is longsuffering, and shows His kindness in giving us time to repent (Rom. 2:4; 2Pet. 2:9).
- C. Jesus Christ wants all mankind to repent (Lk. 13:3).
- D. Jesus taught repentance in three parables, and said that repentance makes the angels rejoice:
  1. The lost sheep (Lk. 15:1-7).
  2. The lost coin (Lk. 15:8-10).
  3. The lost son (Lk. 15:11-31).
- E. Jesus has, by His death, made it possible for all mankind to repent unto salvation (Ac. 5:31; 11:18).

**II. WHAT TRUE REPENTANCE IS.**

- A. To repent is to turn, and have a change of mind or heart. It's making a 180 degree turn.
- B. There are two necessary elements in having true repentance:
  1. Godly sorrow.
  2. Worthy fruits (deeds).
- C. Godly sorrow produces repentance (2Cor. 7:10):
  1. Godly sorrow is not repentance if it is by itself,
  2. Godly sorrow produces a change of mind and heart to bring repentance.
- D. Worldly sorrow is of no value because it does not change the mind for good, and does not produce worthy fruits (2Cor. 7:10).
- E. There is no godly sorrow that produces repentance in willful sin (Heb. 10:26; 6:4-6).
- F. There must be fruits worthy of the repentance for it to be acceptable. Just as we show our faith by our works (Jas. 2:18) so we also must show our repentance by our works (Mt. 3:9).
- G. In conclusion: godly sorrow precedes repentance, while worthy deeds follows it.

**III. REPENTANCE IS FOR THE NON-CHRISTIAN AND CHRISTIAN ALIKE.**

- A. Satan continually tempts us to do evil, therefore as we sin we must repent of it.
- B. We are to have deeds that are appropriate to repentance (Ac. 26:19-20).
- C. For the Christian true repentance involves prayer to God for forgiveness (Ac. 8:22).
- D. For the non-Christian true repentance involves baptism for forgiveness (Ac. 2:38).
- E. In either case one must do what is appropriate to procure the forgiveness of sins.

**CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. Repentance is not an end, in and of itself, but is always "unto salvation".
- B. It is the turning to God and because of the change of mind and heart desiring and doing what is right to obtain forgiveness.
- C. This will make the angels rejoice.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.