

June 23, 2019

The Repentant Heart

By Michael Hickox

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
-------------	---------

Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff,
Roger Sholders

Visitors are welcome

We offer Bible classes for all ages

We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

Romans 2:5: *But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath...*

The word for “**unrepentant**” describes someone whose heart prevents him or her from changing in a way God desires.

Repentance is part of what God requires for us to initially have sins forgiven (**Acts 2:38**), and it is required for sin one has committed *since* becoming a Christian to be forgiven (**Acts 8:22**).

It is thus key for us to have a repentant heart. This demands persistent, sincere reflection of our lives in light of God’s Word. It involves application of His Word, as we allow Him to constantly mold us into the people He wants.

To have a repentant heart, we must have the *humility* to recognize our sins and admit the consequences of our sins.

During Jesus’ earthly ministry, He dealt with some who were too proud to admit they were wrong (cf. **John 7:47-49**).

We can fall into this same deceptive trap today. It requires humility to acknowledge that we are wrong, especially if it is something we have been wrong about for a long time.

Those with repentant hearts recognize that there is nothing shameful about changing in the ways God requires.

The Repentant Heart

(Continued)

What *is* a shame is refusing to change out of foolish pride.

To have a humble, repentant heart, we must also examine ourselves (**2 Cor. 13:5**). Many of the proud, self-righteous individuals of Jesus' time had no idea they were so sinful (cf. **Luke 18:11-12**). A "surefire" way to be deceived is to lack sincere examination of our lives.

To be doers of the Word and not hearers only, we should study God's Word with an attitude that is looking to improve, and not merely to justify oneself.

This is the thought process of those who persistently grow as the Holy Spirit commands (**2 Pet. 3:18**). Instead of being afraid to admit and pursue needed correction...instead of justifying oneself by making excuses...instead of brushing problems under the rug, those with repentant hearts hit their sins "head on." They study God's Word with an intent to grow and make corrections as needed.

When things are found that indicate guilt of sin, the thought process of the repentant is godly sorrow (**2 Cor. 7:9-10**) and repentance. Those with repentant hearts do not allow themselves to fall deeper into the hole they are already in,

but instead allow Jesus to get them out of the hole.

If we have repentant hearts, we will feel a *need* to do whatever is necessary to be right with God, because such will be what we *treasure*. We will "***hunger and thirst after righteousness***" (**Matt. 5:6**), prioritizing being right with God above earthly treasure, "winning" arguments, or staying in our comfort zone.

This is the type of heart that receives seed on good ground and bears much fruit (**Matt. 13:8**). It is not a hard heart, a heart that loves the world, or a shallow heart. The repentant heart allows God's Word to be rooted deeply in us.

This is the heart that should be inside all of us. The repentance Jesus commanded (**Matt. 4:17**) means to correct things that are contrary to God's will. We must desire so earnestly to please God that we are willing to do whatever is needed to please Him.

May we all have this type of heart, instead of being among those who "***according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath...***"

Area Gospel Meetings

Walnut Chapel Church of Christ:

June 23-28 (with Mike Davis)

Sun: 9:30 AM, 10:20 AM, 6:00 PM; M-F: 7:00 PM

Casey Westside church of Christ:

June 24-28 (Vacation Bible School)

M-F: 6:30 PM

Bellair Church of Christ:

July 8-12 (with Chuck Bartlett)

M-F: 7:00 PM

River Ridge church of Christ:

July 13 (Singing)

Sat: 2:30-4:00 PM

Yale church of Christ:

July 15-19 (with Mike Davis)

M-F: 7:00 PM

+++++

God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

Prayer List

Holly G
 Sandy S
 Betty P
 Mabel H
 Cheryl S
 Norma C
 Linda & Family
 Dody G
 Joe B
 Allen S (Cancer)
 Jeanette & Family
 Raymond & Maxine
 June H (Broken Pelvis)
 Loren G (Injuries from fall)
 Randy S (Strokes)

Daily Bible Reading

June 23 – Nehemiah 10-11; Acts 4:1-22
 June 24 – Nehemiah 12-13; Acts 4:23-37
 June 25 – Esther 1-2; Acts 5:1-21
 June 26 – Esther 3-5; Acts 5:22-42
 June 27 – Esther 6-8; Acts 6
 June 28 – Esther 9-10; Acts 7:1-21
 June 29 – Job 1-2; Acts 7:22-43

“And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the Word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.” - Acts 20:32

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, June 23, 2019

Bible Study: Jim
Worship: Larry
Evening: Dan D

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Travis

Cleaning Building

Janice

Prepare Communion

Janice

Upcoming Reminders

July 20: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.

Study: Two Gracious Souls (Ruth 2:8-13)

August 11-16: Gospel Meeting

Speaker: David Tant

Assignments

Sunday, June 30, 2019

Reading: Steve
Announcements: Travis
Table: Dan H
Serve: Joe
Darrell
Dave
John

Wednesday, July 3, 2019

Invitation: Larry

Anniversaries

June 23 – Mason and Stephanie

Birthdays