

January 26, 2020

A Repentant Heart

By Michael Hickox

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
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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
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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 and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;*

The Holy Spirit through Paul condemns an “**unrepentant**” (or “**impenitent**”) heart. To be right with God, we must have a *repentant* heart.

The need for a repentant heart is rooted in the necessity and nature of *repentance*. In **Acts 2:37**, guilt-filled Jews asked the apostles what they needed to do to be right with God. In **verse 38**, the Holy Spirit through Peter commanded them, “**Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**”

Scriptural baptism is necessary for one outside the body of Christ to have his or her sins forgiven. Notice also, though, that *repentance* is necessary for one to have his or her sins forgiven.

Though many deny what God teaches about *baptism*, when one chooses to accept the truth, obeying this command is fairly simple. *Repentance*, on the other hand, can be much more difficult.

For one who is in an adulterous marriage, repentance involves leaving that relationship (cf. **Matt. 19:9**). For one

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(Continued)

who has spent his entire adult life owning and operating a liquor store, repentance involves choosing a new career. These examples illustrate the depth of the commitment that's involved in the word, "**repent.**" One will not be in obedience to this command without a repentant heart.

While **Acts 2:38** contains commands for those outside the body of Christ, the Holy Spirit also taught that repentance is necessary for the *erring Christian* to receive forgiveness of sin.

In **Acts 8:13**, a man named Simon was baptized into Christ. At that point, his *past* sins were forgiven. He sinned, though, *after becoming a Christian (verses 18-21)*, and was commanded in **verse 22**, "**Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray the Lord, if perhaps the thought of thy heart shall be forgiven thee.**"

Notice that the erring Christian is given *two* commands in this verse. If an erring Christian prays but is not *repentant*, he or she is not promised forgiveness.

Likewise, if an erring Christian is *sorry* to have sinned but is not repentant, he or she is not promised forgiveness. Notice **2 Corinthians 7:10**: ***For godly sorrow produces repentance to salvation, which brings no regret. But the sorrow of the world produces death.***

Godly sorrow is that sorrow which leads

to godly *correction*. It leads to a *change of will*, as one zealously turns in the opposite direction of sin and endeavors to do the best he or she can to not commit that sin again. This is what repentance is all about.

Knowing this helps us understand the nature of a repentant heart.

A repentant heart is one that recognizes the *seriousness* of sin.

A repentant heart is *humble* enough to make correction, instead of being too proud to admit guilt. When one with a repentant heart has sin in his or her life, he or she will be *thankful* to find out so *correction* can be made.

One with a repentant heart denies his or her desires as needed to submit to the will of God. He or she does not look for excuses to defend disobedience. A repentant heart does not use circumstances or the actions of others to justify failure to please God.

The attitude of the repentant heart is "God said it. That settles it." One with such a heart *values* pleasing God above all and thus feels a great *need* to make any change he or she finds is in accordance with God's revealed will.

May each of us develop such a heart that is always ready to make any corrections God requires of us.

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

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Words to Consider

"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, for those who are called according to His purpose."

– Romans 8:28

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me." – Galatians 2:20

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Betty P
Mabel H
Cheryl S
Norma C
Allen S (Cancer)
Raymond & Maxine
Randy & Kim S
Ken & Chris F
Brandon O's Grandmother (Lung Cancer)
June's Niece, Debbie
Roger H (Heart Surgery)
Berlyn & Guyla Y
Jeanette's Mother, Fontella
Jerry S (Prostate Cancer)

Daily Bible Reading

January 26 – Exodus 4-6; Matt. 14:22-36
January 27 – Exodus 7-8; Matt. 15:1-20
January 28 – Exodus 9-11; Matt. 15:21-39
January 29 – Exodus 12-13; Matt. 16
January 30 – Exodus 14-15; Matt. 17
January 31 – Exodus 16-18; Matt. 18:1-20
February 1 – Exodus 19-20; Matt. 18:21-35

"The entrance of your words gives light. It gives understanding to the simple." – Psalm 119:130

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, January 26, 2020

Bible Study: Dave
Worship: Dan D
Evening: Travis

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Michael

Clean Building

Jeanette

Prepare Communion

Jeanette

Upcoming Reminders

Feb. 22: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.

Study: Women of the New Testament

Assignments

Sunday, February 2, 2020

Reading: Dan D
Announcements: Darrell
Table: Dave
Serve: Jim
Mason
Dan D
Roger

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

Invitation: Larry

Anniversaries

Birthdays

February 2 – Travis
February 8 – Betty
February 13 – Darrell
February 15 – Dan D
February 20 – Jeff
February 23 – Larry
February 28 – Donna G
February 28 – Sandy