

March 20, 2022

The 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...*

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 (**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 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

Hazel Dell Church of Christ:

March 20 – 25 (with Jim Stauffer)
Sun: 9:00, 10:00, 6:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00 PM

Walnut Chapel Church of Christ:

March 27 – April 1 (with Chuck Bartlett)
Sun: 9:30, 6:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00 PM

*Our Gospel Meeting will be

April 17-22 with J.R. Bronger*

Sun: 9:30, 10:20, 2:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00

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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

“I am the good shepherd...”

– John 10:11

Prayer List

Holly G
 Jerry & Sandy S
 Cheryl S
 Norma C
 Raymond B
 Barbara G
 Robert C
 Sharon G (Cancer)
 Doans’ Grandson, Wilson
 Carlyle & Donna B
 Ken & Christine F
 Devin D (Cancer)
 Vicki S (Cancer)
 Linda C
 Susan F (Cancer)
 Christie’s Brother, Jerry (Lung Cancer)

Daily Bible Reading

March 20 – Joshua 4-6; Luke 1:1-20
 March 21 – Joshua 7-9; Luke 1:21-38
 March 22 – Joshua 10-12; Luke 1:39-56
 March 23 – Joshua 13-15; Luke 1:57-80
 March 24 – Joshua 16-18; Luke 2:1-24
 March 25 – Joshua 19-21; Luke 2:25-52
 March 26 – Joshua 22-24; Luke 3

“Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.” – John 17:17 (ESV)

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, March 20, 2022

Bible Study: Mike

Worship: Jeff

Evening: Mark

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

Douglas

Clean Building

Misty

Prepare Communion

Julzy

Upcoming Reminders

Wednesday (23rd) adult class:

Ephesians 1:19ff

Next Sunday (27th) adult class:

Overcoming Discouragement

Assignments

Sunday, March 27, 2022

Reading: Dave

Announcements: Steve

Table: Roger

Serve: John

Darrell

Dan H

Dan D

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Invitation: Mike

Anniversaries

March 28 – John & Cynde

Birthdays

March 23 – Patty