

# God Commands Repentance

**Acts 17:30-31**

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**Acts 17:30-31** *“All men everywhere...”*

**Rom 3:23** *“for all have sinned...”*

**Rom 4:15** *“...where there is no law,  
neither is there transgression.”*

Therefore, **all** are under law!

# REPENTANCE COMMANDED

- *By John. Mt. 3:2*
- *By Jesus. Mt. 4:17; Lk. 13:3,5*
- *Great Commission. Lk. 24:47*
- *By Disciples. Mk. 6:12*
- *By Apostles. Acts 2:38; 11:18*

# REPENTANCE Is Not...

- *Fear*
- *Confession*
- *Being sorry*
- *Simply a reformation of life*
- *Being aware of sin*
- *Prayer*
- *Coming forward*
- *Doing penance*
- *Remorse or regret*
- *"If I have..."*

# REPENTANCE

- *metanoia* – “a change of mind for the better, heartily to AMEND with abhorrence of one’s past sins.” (Thayer, 405)
- “This change of mind involves BOTH a turning from sin and a turning to God.” (W.E. Vine, Vol. 3, pg. 281)
- “John did not call on people to be sorry, but to change their mental attitudes AND CONDUCT.” (A.T. Robertson, Word Pictures, Vol. 1, pg. 24)

# Examples of Repentance

- *Jews on Pentecost. Acts 2*
- *Ninevites. Mt. 12:41; cf. Jonah 3:10*
- *Rebellious son. Mt. 21:28-29*
- *Prodigal son. Lk. 15:11-21*

# Examples of Repentance

- *Thessalonians turned from idols.*  
*1 Thess. 1:9*
- *Ephesians burned their books. Acts 19:19*
- *Jailor "washed their stripes." Acts 16:33*
- *Corinthians turned from former practices.*  
*1 Cor. 6:9-11*

**These all brought forth fruit worthy of repentance!**

**Cf. Lk. 3:8; Acts 26:19-20**

# Demands of Repentance

- FRUIT MUST BE BORNE

*Lk. 3:8; Acts 26:20*

- *Worthy* – “weighing, having weight;” corresponding to
- Congruous, corresponding to a thing
- Conforming action of life with attitude of heart



# Demands of Repentance

- **DESIRE TO REPENT** – *Lk. 3:10*
  - Effect of gospel on the heart – *Acts 2: 37-38*
  - Cf. Simon - *Acts 8:20-23, 24*

# Demands of Repentance

- SOME THINGS "MUST" BE DONE – *Lk. 3:10-14*

## –*Repudiation of sin*

- Ephesian idolaters – *Acts 19:18-19*
- Israelites sinful marriages – *Ezra 10:10-11*

# Demands of Repentance

- SOME THINGS "MUST" BE DONE – *Lk. 3:11-14*

## –Reformation of conduct

- Regret (sorrow) causes change – *Mt. 21:28-32; Lk. 15:18; 1 Cor. 6:9-11*
- Rebuked for not learning this – *Mt. 21:31-32*

# Demands of Repentance

- SOME THINGS "MUST" BE DONE – *Lk. 3:11-14*

## – *What about Restitution ?*

- **Zacchaeus** – *Luke 19:8-9 (Lev. 6:1-7)*

- *"In vain may anyone tell me that he repents... stealing my horse while he continues to ride him without my consent..." (Bretners, pg. 191)*

# Demands of Repentance

- **COSTLY** – *Lk. 14:25-33*
  - Giving up sin – *Eph. 4:17-24*
  - The cost can be very great –  
*Acts 19:19*

# Demands of Repentance

- **EMOTIONAL** – *Ezra 9-10*

- Painful for the teacher of truth,  
*9:1-3 ; 10:6 (cf. 2 Cor. 7:12)*

- Painful for those involved in sin  
– *9:4; 10:1-4, 9-12, 19*

- Painful for those effected by the sinner & his repentance – *10:44*

# Does Not Remove Temporal Consequences

- Convicted murderer does not escape death penalty. **Acts 25:11**
- Convicted thief does not escape “*due reward.*” **Lk. 23:40-43**
- Convicted prodigal does not regain wasted money. **Lk. 15:13**
- Convicted adulterer not free to continue adultery. **Mt. 19:9**

# What Produces Repentance?

- *Bible preaching. Cf. Jonah 3:1-2*
  - *“Preach the preaching that I bid thee.”*  
*cf. Lk. 11:32*
- *The goodness of God. Rom. 2:4*
- *The Judgment to come. Acts 17:30-31*
- *Godly sorrow. 2 Cor. 7:10; cf. Mt. 26:69-27:5*



# Fruits of Repentance-

*"For behold..." 2 Corinthians 7:11*

- *Earnest care* – Haste (with care) to correct sin
- *Clearing* – Diligent change answered critics
- *Indignation* – Displeasure over previous sin
- *Fear* – Dread of not pleasing God
- *Longing* – Earnest desire to do & be right

# Fruits of Repentance-

*"For behold..." 2 Corinthians 7:11*

- *Zeal* – Fervent spirit, not apathetic neglect
- *Avenging* – Sin no longer tolerated
- *Approved yourselves to be pure* – Pure in the matter

# Efforts to Avoid Repentance

- Deny the existence of sin.
- Deny personal guilt. 1 Sam. 15:13,15
- Transfer responsibility for sin. Ezek. 18:20
- Cover up sin. 2 Sam. 11
- Harm those who expose sin. Mt. 14; Mk. 6;  
cf. Gal. 4:16

# God's Solution To Sin

*Acts 2:38 “Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins...”*