

“AUTHENTIC REPENTANCE”
2 Corinthians 7:2-16

INTRODUCTION

When reconciling, repentance is a necessary ingredient. That’s the focus of this chapter, *authentic* repentance. Repentance, however, doesn’t seem to be talked about very much. It is spoken of by Jesus in His preaching, **Mark 1:15**, and in **Revelation** in His letters to the churches (8 times). The core message in this chapter is **verses 9, 10** when he speaks of the sorrow and consolation of others.

REPENTANCE

Repentance or Metanoia is a change of mind. It’s a total change of attitude and direction, a 180-degree change of direction. The greatest commands of loving God and loving your neighbor involve repentance. **Luke 24:46-47, Acts 17:30, 2 Peter 3:9**. Every person, everywhere should repent. When compelled to trust in Jesus, repentance is implied. When you trust in Jesus you no longer trust in yourself. You agree with God that you are a sinner!

How is repentance brought about? Sometimes we need someone else to let us know what we can’t see. When doing this that person should: 1) Share from the heart in love. **Romans 2:4**, 2) Have a clear conscience, and 3) Include both the positive and negative aspects about the other. That’s what Paul did with the Corinthians! (Finding fault only will result in little progress). When confronting someone else it needs to be done in a loving way. Sometimes the truth hurts. **Prov. 27:6, Prov. 9:8**.

SORROW

At times we may respond to confrontation with embarrassment, pride, anger. We often don’t want to accept criticism. Godly sorrow isn’t repentance...it *leads* to repentance. We must confess, “I’ve sinned against God”! Worldly sorrow is the opposite and protects self. That is when you are sorry someone even pointed out your fault or sin! One of the best examples of worldly sorrow vs. Godly sorrow is to look at what happened to Judas and Peter when facing their own sins. One resulted in death and the other renewed life!

MARKS OF REPENTANCE

In this passage there are 7 marks of repentance in **verse 11**.

- 1) Diligence, 2) Clearing of their name – being a good witness, 3) Indignation – being upset with their own sin. 4) Fear – or resulting in fear the Lord! 5) Vehement desire – they longed to repair their damaged relationships, 6) Zeal for right and wrong- there was a new resolve for holiness and righteousness, and 7) Revenge or vindication – They wanted to exact the appropriate level of action for what was taking place in the church.

True repentance produces real fruit! Its comfort, joy and rejoicing. There is joy in heaven when even one sinner repents, **Luke 15:7**.

CONSIDER

Godly sorrow creates the right conditions for reconciliation. It provides for the healing process to those who have been injured. It places a person’s value in its rightful place. Repentance is the way to rebuild trust in relationships. *Do you need to repent of something today? To God? To a neighbor? Do this and walk in the light! 1 John 1:5-10.*

PRAY.....

- * That the Lord would pour out His Spirit on our Pastors Conference.
- * That our Savior would work mightily in Calvary Chapel Academy and the School of Ministry this year.
- * That the Lord would restore lives through the Veterans Day Assembly.