

REPENT OR REMORSE EQUALS HEAVEN OR HELL

Studies in the Acts

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 1:8

PAUL'S FOURFOLD VIEW OF HIS MINISTRY:

Background and Example:

From Miletus he (Paul) sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them, "You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you the whole time..."

Acts 20:17-18

One, Serve the Lord and Him alone:

"(what) servicing (who) the Lord (how) with all (1) humility and with (2) tears and with (3) trials which came upon me through the plots of the Jews..."

Acts 20:19

Two, Serve the Church by Teaching / Preaching:

"how I did not shrink from (what) declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you (how) publicly and from house to house..."

Acts 20:20

Three, Serve the Lost via Evangelism:

"(what) solemnly testifying to (who) both Jews and Greeks of (what) repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ."

Acts 20:21

Four, Serve through Personal Sacrifice:

"And now, behold, bound by the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me. But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, (which is) to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God."

Acts 20:22-24

REPENTANCE:

Repentance means: _____

An Essential Requirement for Salvation:

So he began saying to the crowds who were going out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham for our father,' for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham."

Luke 3:7-8

The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling at His disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?" And Jesus answered and said to them, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinner to repentance."

Luke 5:30-32

"So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision, but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, (and) performing deeds appropriate to repentance."

Acts 26:19-20

"And My people who are called by My name (1) humble themselves and (2) pray and (3) seek My face and (4) turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

Repentance involves: _____

A Biblical Example of True Repentance (from Acts 2):

Intellect:

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ - this Jesus whom you crucified."

Acts 2:36

Emotion (Remorse):

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

Acts 2:37

Act of the Will (Volition) - Fruits of Repentance:

Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift

of the Holy Spirit. So then, those who (what) had received his word were (what) baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls." Acts 2:38, 41

Question:

**What if someone just stops at the point of remorse?
Have they repented? Are they saved?**

Some Biblical Examples of Sorrow and Remorse:

Judas:

Intellect:

Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned... Matthew 27:3a

Emotion (Remorse):

he felt (what) remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!" And he threw the pieces of silver into the temple sanctuary and departed; and he went away and hanged himself. Matthew 27:3b-5

Act of the Will (Volition) - Fruits of Repentance: None

Rich Young Ruler:

Intellect:

And someone came to Him and said, "Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?"

The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept; what am I still lacking?" Matthew 19:16, 20

Emotion (Remorse):

Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he was one who owned much property.

Matthew 19:20-21

Act of the Will (Volition) - Fruits of Repentance: None

See also Saul in 1 Samuel 15:24-25