

Salvation: Repentance  
(2 Peter 3:9)

Introduction:

1. The Bible addresses many subjects that relate to "the salvation of our souls."
2. We are studying some of these important subjects because a person's soul is his most valuable possession.
3. Jesus emphasized the value of our souls when He asked 2 questions that are found in Matthew 16:26.
4. The subjects we have covered include:
  - a. the grace of God
  - b. the death of Christ
  - c. hearing the Word of God
  - d. believing that Jesus is the Son of God.
5. In this lesson we are examining passages that relate to "repentance."
6. The first point we need to make is that . . .

Discussion:

- I. "REPENTANCE" IS A KEY COMPONENT OF THE PLAN OF SALVATION
  - A. Jesus placed great emphasis on "repentance."
    1. Examples:
      - a. Jesus began His ministry by calling upon people to repent (Mark 1:14-15).
      - b. According to Mark 2:17, Jesus came to call "*sinners to repentance*."
      - c. Jesus stated twice that those who fail to repent will perish (Luke 13:3, 5).
      - d. Jesus included "repentance" in His Great Commission (Luke 24:46-47).
    2. We must listen carefully to Jesus because He is "*the author of eternal salvation*" (Hebrews 5:9).
  - B. The apostles also emphasized "repentance."
    1. Examples:
      - a. Peter (Acts 2:38; 3:19)
      - b. Paul (Acts 17:30)
    2. We must listen carefully to the apostles because they confirmed the "*great salvation*" that Jesus first proclaimed (Hebrews 2:3-4).
  - C. To further stress the importance of "repentance," the Lord requires everyone to repent (2 Peter 3:9).
  - D. Now that we understand that "repentance" is a requirement for salvation, . . .
- II. LET US DEFINE "REPENTANCE"
  - A. Repent: to change the mind
    1. This is illustrated by the fact that God has repented on various occasions.
      - a. 1 Samuel 15:11
      - b. Jonah 3:10
    2. This is also illustrated by the prodigal son's reaction (Luke 15:17-19).
    3. "Repentance" is a change of mind; however, . . .
  - B. The fruit of "repentance" is a change of life (Matthew 3:7-8).
  - C. "Repentance" involves much more than feeling remorse for something we have done -- it is a change of mind that results in a change of life (Matthew 21:28-32).
- III. LET US EXAMINE 5 FACTORS THAT SHOULD LEAD US TO REPENT
  - A. The Word of God (Luke 16:27-31)
  - B. Joy in heaven (Luke 15:7, 10)
  - C. The judgment (Acts 17:30-31)
  - D. The goodness of God (Romans 2:3-4)
  - E. Godly sorrow (2 Corinthians 7:10)
- IV. "REPENTANCE" IS ALSO A REQUIREMENT FOR CHRISTIANS [Those who have been saved]
  - A. Simon had to repent to be forgiven (Acts 8:13, 22).
  - B. Congregations that sin must repent (Revelation 2:5, 16, 22; 3:3, 19).

Conclusion:

1. "Repentance" can be a challenge because it involves making a change that may include giving up something that is special to us.
2. The Lord exhorts us to make any necessary sacrifices (Matthew 18:8-9).
3. He will bless us in return (Matthew 19:29).