

Repentance & Baptism

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*Repent and be baptized,
every one of you.*
Acts 2:38

SECTION 1

What Shall We Do?

1. What was the “bottom line” of Peter’s sermon? Acts 2:36

2. What did the people say in response to Peter’s preaching? Acts 2:37

3. What did Peter say they should do? Acts 2:38

4. What did Peter say they would receive if they would repent and be baptized?
Acts 2:38

5. Who did this promise apply to? Acts 2:39

6. What else did Peter say? Acts 2:40

7. What happened to those who accepted the message? Acts 2:41

8. Once they were added to the local body of believers, what did they do? Acts 2:42,46

Peter preached the message of the cross, that Jesus was both Lord and Christ. The people were “cut to the heart.” They responded by asking “What shall we do?” The answer to their question was four-fold:

1. Repent
2. Be baptized
3. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
4. Be added to the Church

In this chapter we will study repentance and water baptism. The Holy Spirit and the Church will be covered in separate chapters.

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

SECTION 2

Turning from Sin – Turning to God

In studying repentance, we must also study faith. It is impossible to have true repentance without faith. Repentance involves “turning from” sin and faith involves “turning to” God. Therefore, biblical repentance is a turning away from sin and a turning to God.

1. What are six foundational teachings of Christianity? Hebrews 6:1,2

2. What is the inscription on God's foundation? 2 Timothy 2:19

3. What message did Jesus preach? Luke 13:2-5

4. What message should be preached in all nations? Luke 24:47

5. What happens when we repent and turn to God? Acts 3:19

6. Who does God command to repent? Acts 17:30

7. What did Paul preach? Acts 26:20

8. What is the proof of repentance? Acts 26:20

9. What should we do about our sins? Proverbs 28:13

10. True repentance involves confession of sin, turning away from sin and turning to God. What else is involved? Exodus 22:3

Restitution is defined as "the returning or restoring to someone what is his; the act of making amends." (Webster Dictionary)

11. Zacchaeus desired to repent and make restitution for his sins. How did he propose to make restitution? Luke 19:8

12. How did Jesus respond to Zacchaeus? Luke 19:9

13. What leads us toward repentance? Romans 2:4

14. Part of repentance is being sorry for our sins. What are the two types of sorrow and what do they produce? 2 Corinthians 7:10

15. Besides repentance, what else does godly sorrow produce? 2 Corinthians 7:11

According to the scriptures, repentance involves conviction of sin, sorrow for sin, turning from sin and a willingness to make restitution. However, repentance is still not complete without faith.

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

SECTION 3

Repentance and Faith

1. What did Paul say we must turn to, when we turn from darkness? Acts 26:18

True conversion is like a two-sided coin. One side is repentance, the other side is faith. We cannot turn from something without turning to something else. All of this is a gift of God (Ephesians 2:8). It is by grace we are saved. This means we do nothing to earn it. We are dead in sin and unable to change ourselves (Ephesians 2:1).

2. In order to receive eternal life, what must we do? John 3:16

3. What did Jesus say we must do? Mark 1:15

4. How are we justified? Romans 5:1

5. What happens when we receive Jesus as Lord and Savior? John 1:12-13

6. How does Jesus describe the new life we receive as a Christian? John 3:3

7. What must we believe? 1 John 5:1,5

8. What must happen if we are to come to Christ? John 6:44

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

SECTION 4

Water Baptism

1. What happened to those who accepted Peter's message? Acts 2:41

2. What did the men and women who believed Philip's message do? Acts 8:12

3. After hearing the good news about Jesus, what did the Ethiopian eunuch desire to do? Acts 8:35,36

4. Jesus told his disciples to go and make disciples of all nations. What did he say to do with those disciples? Matthew 28:19,20

v.19 _____

v.20 _____

The New Testament presents the following four illustrations to help us understand water baptism.

Burial and Resurrection (Romans 6:4,5)

Crossing the Red Sea (1 Corinthians 10:1,2)

Circumcision (Colossians 2:11,12)

The Flood (1 Peter 3:20,21)

5. Paul compares Christian baptism to a burial. In order to be buried, a person must first die. What must we die to before we can be baptized? Romans 6:1-3

6. The Israelites passing through the Red Sea is a picture of baptism for us. Why were the Israelites fleeing from the Egyptians? Exodus 2,23; 3:7,9

7. What happened to the Egyptians? Exodus 14:22-28

In the same way the Israelites were in slavery to the Egyptians, we were all slaves of sin. The Israelites were freed from their bondage by passing through the Red Sea. Baptism pictures the freedom from sin that Jesus purchased for us on the cross.

8. Paul says baptism is like a circumcision, not done by human hands, but a spiritual circumcision done by Christ. What is put off during this spiritual circumcision? Colossians 2:11,12

9. What did Peter say the flood water symbolized? 1 Peter 3:21

10. What is baptism a pledge of? 1 Peter 3:21

Peter teaches that it is not the “removal of dirt from the body” that saves us. In other words, it is neither the act of baptism, nor the water of baptism. “Rather it saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” Once again we see the scriptures teach that we are saved by what he did (death and resurrection), and not by what we do (water baptism). Peter goes on to say that baptism is a pledge of a good conscience.

Each of these pictures show the old life being put away and new life emerging. In baptism, we publicly display what Christ did through his cross and resurrection. We also show that we have identified with this. We obey Christ’s command to be baptized and thereby identify with the power of the cross and resurrection to deliver us completely from the power and authority of the life of sin.

And now what are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name. Acts 22:16

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?
