

SECOND PETER CHAPTER 3

Lesson 38

Repentance

24 April, 2015

2 PETER 3:8-9

God certainly will put lost sinners in hell when the time comes to do so. But He always gives people enough time to repent—because if they will repent He can forgive them and save them from that terrible judgment.

We ought to have the same heart as God as we try to witness to the lost; having no desire to see them face God's wrath, but hoping that they'll repent and be spared the judgment they deserve.

Within the church, we ought to demonstrate longsuffering toward the brethren, hoping that they'll repent before they have to face the chastising hand of their Heavenly Father.

REPENTANCE:

1. Sorrow for anything done or said.
 2. Pain, regret, or affliction, which a person feels on account of his past conduct because it exposes him to punishment.
 3. Deep contrition for sin as an offense and dishonor to God. It is accompanied by—amendment of life. (They will stop the wrong behavior and start trying to do right).
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GENESIS 6:5-6

God is the first one to repent in the Bible. He was sorry for creating man—because it caused Him great sorrow and grief to know that he could not fellowship with them anymore. God's repentance changed His course of action. He sent the flood to make things right in the earth again.

EZEKIEL 14:5-6

Israel thought they could worship God through various idols. God said those idols were getting in the way so that they were "estranged" (separated) from Him. So He tells them to repent (be sorry, regret what they've done and change their ways), and get rid of their idols.

JONAH 3:5-4:2

The people of Nineveh heard Jonah preach a message of condemnation upon their city. Upon hearing the message, they all repented and began to worship God in hopes that God would repent of His plan to destroy them. The result: God did not destroy them.

Jonah was bitter and explained to the Lord that the reason he didn't want to give Nineveh the warning is because he knew that a God who was a gracious, merciful, kind, and slow to anger would repent of His anger toward Nineveh if they did the right thing. Jonah wanted God to destroy them.

MATTHEW 4:17

The Lord Jesus preached repentance.

MATTHEW 11:20-22 The cities of Chorazin and Bethsaida would not repent. Because of this, Jesus said their judgment would be greater than the judgment of Tyre and Sidon.

You do not go to hell because of the sins you commit. You go to hell because you will not repent. You can repent at any moment and be forgiven of all your sins. If you refuse, you bring judgment upon yourself.

LUKE 17:3-4 Jesus warns us to rebuke a brother when he trespasses against us, tell them what they did wrong— and to forgive him if he repents. We are to be instantly willing to forgive, just like the Lord is.

ACTS 17:22-30 Paul illustrates the importance of telling people what they're doing wrong so that they can repent of it. He tells the people of Athens they're too superstitious, ignorant in their worship, and then tells them who the real God is. He clearly and firmly exposes their error—and then finally tells them that the true God commands them to repent.

Does Paul enjoy insulting people? No, he knows that they will perish in their false ways if they don't repent. He doesn't want them to perish. He had to reveal the truth to them or they would never repent.

2 COR. 7:8-13 Paul had written a harsh letter of correction (1 Corinthians) to the believers in Corinth because there were so many problems in that church that they needed to turn from. In Second Corinthians, we learn what kind of results that letter produced in the church.

Paul was not happy that his letter made them sorry, but he was happy that it made them sorry to repentance (vs. 9). Because since they "**were made sorry after a godly manner**" (vs. 9), no further correction ("**damage**") would be necessary.

Verse 11 lists the fruit of their repentance.

2 TIMOTHY 2:24-26 Believer—don't strive (argue) with people when trying to help them turn to the Lord. Be gentle with them, teach them patiently, and don't let the things they say change you. They may seem to be opposing you, but really they are opposing themselves. If you'll follow this instruction, God may give them repentance and help them get out of the Devil's snare.

REVELATION 2:5 The church at Ephesus deserved God's judgment, but God said, "If you repent, I'll withhold judgment." Note: "The seven candlesticks...are the seven churches" (Rev. 1:20).

2:16 The church at Pergamum deserved to be smote with God's word. If they repent, He'll withdraw that judgment.

2:21 The church in Thyatira is given the opportunity to repent of their deeds.

⁹ **The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not WILLING that ANY should perish, but that all should come to repentance."**