

## **Repentance is the Way for Renewal in Christ**

**Mathew 9:13- But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.** (KJV)

The Lord God is good and merciful and seeks for believers to repent of sins. Renewal of the life in Jesus Christ is always possible while the mind functions. Repentance keeps the path open to the Heavenly Kingdom and eternal life. Peace, love and joy remain possible in the Christian life when repentance occurs. The heart, mind and soul change dramatically when sincere repentance takes place.

**Mark 2:17- When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.** (KJV)

Believers responding to the call to repentance benefit from the Lord's mercy. The Lord's love demonstrated through forgiveness heals the heart, mind and soul. Life dramatically changes in purpose, action and direction through repentance. The believer benefits from God's grace and mercy in the process of repentance. God's reassuring presence is experienced when the believer begins to repent.

**Luke 15:7- I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.** (KJV)

Repentance enables believers to overcome depression, torment and despondency. Sin is overcome, rejected and repelled when a person chooses Christ and repents. Baptism provides the believer with the foundation in Christ for all of earthly life. Believers have a responsibility to build upon the baptismal commitment to Christ. Honoring and following Jesus Christ throughout life is the way to remain faithful.

**2 Corinthians 7:10- For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.** (KJV)

Continued repentance throughout earthly life is fundamental for the Christian. Sin takes place in each earthly life and necessitates the continuous repentance. Each person says, does or thinks in ways that are offensive to the Lord God. The Lord welcomes when the person repents and takes responsibility for sins. Harmful stress is removed from the believer's heart, mind and soul by repentance.

**2 Peter 3:9- 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.** (KJV)

Believers are freed from the shackles of sin through repentance and enjoy renewal. The Lord God strengthens the serious believer in the daily battle against sin. Constant vigilance is necessary to keep the believer from returning to sinful ways. Only with the Lord's grace, forgiveness and mercy will the believer remain faithful. Care is necessary at every moment of life to protect the soul from harmful sin.

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