

The Joy of Repentance

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 clears the conscience and the heart, mind and soul are filled with joy. The Lord Jesus Christ forgives the sins of those repenting in heart, mind and soul. Sincere repentance involves the action of the whole person, heart, mind and soul. The cleansing and the wiping away of sins lifts the great burden from the believer. Joy is overwhelming when the burden of sins is lifted and freedom is experienced. Sins imprison a person and become a great burden to the heart, mind and soul

Acts 19:4-Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. (KJV)

When sins are forgiven, the weight is lifted and the believer has new mobility. Repentance occurs voluntarily in conscious acts of faith and trust in the Lord. Courage is necessary to place trust in the Lord and take the steps needed to repent. The person must be willing to expose personal sins to the Lord in a step of faith. Compassionate priests ease the fear and discomfort believers feel in repentance. Sincere repentance transforms the believers and leads to unity with Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 7:9-Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. (KJV)

Repentance is necessary throughout earthly life if a person seeks God's Kingdom. Every person continues to sin and repentance is the path to renewal in Christ. Failure to repent results in despondency and increased depression in earthly life. The Risen Christ established indestructible joy for believers to seek in repentance. Christ welcomes and encourages all sinners including the most serious to repent. The lives of the saints prove that repentance is possible and beneficial for sinners.

2 Timothy 2:25-In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; (KJV)

Saints with sinful histories become examples of goodness by sincere repentance. The lives of the saints are very informative about the value and joy of repentance. Every person with a sound mind is capable of benefitting from sincere repentance. Christ is ever-present to receive, embrace and forgive a person sincerely repenting. God's Holy Church provides priests to assist persons seeking to repent of sins. The journey to unity with Christ involves constant repentance during earthly life.

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