

## Jesus Calls His Church to Repentance

Jesus tells 5 out of 7 churches to repent!

### Revelations 2:4 & 5 - to Ephesus

4 I have this against you: you [the Church] have left your first love. Consider how far you have fallen! **Repent and do the things you did at first.** If you do not **repent**, I will come to you & remove your lampstand from its place.

Scripture describes repentance as a change of attitude, heart **“and”** conduct. Jesus warns us, His church, that a stubborn unrepentant heart has serious consequences.

### Revelations 2:15 & 16 - to Pergamum

15 So, you also have some who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. [false teaching that accommodated immorality along with an exclusive hierarchical system of authority!]. 16 **‘Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.**

Jesus warns and calls us, His church, to repent from **not dealing with false teaching!** And to repent from, & deal with controlling church structures with a line of authority.

### Revelations 2:19 & 21 - to Thyatira

“repent out of”, “repent from”, “repent out from among”

19 I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your latest deeds are greater than at first. 20 **‘But I have this against you, that you tolerate** the woman Jezebel, [the name Jesus ‘ascribed’ to this particular woman] the woman who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My servants astray so that they commit *acts of immorality* and eat things sacrificed to idols. 21 **‘I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of (out of, from, out from among) her immorality.’**

### Revelations 3:3 - to Sardis

So remember what you have received and heard; hold it fast (guard it) **and repent** [and wake up!]. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time (day) I will come to you.

### Revelations 3:19 - to Laodicea

Those whom I love I rebuke (reprove) and discipline. So be earnest **and repent.** [from “lukewarmness” vs.16]

Why does Jesus rebuke us? Is He calling you to repent from lukewarmness back to your first love?

## Peter tells a New Christian to Repent!

Acts 8:13, 21 & 22

13 Simon [the former magician vs.9] himself believed; and after being **baptised**, he **continued** on with Philip ...

Simon “believed” Philips message, he was “baptised” and he “continued” with Philip. **But what did Peter say to this new Christians a short time after he received Christ?**

21 “You have no part or share in **this matter**, for your heart is not right before God. 22 **“So repent of (away from) this wickedness of yours,** and pray to the Lord that, if indeed, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

## Godly Sorrow & Christian Repentance

Christians experience **godly sorrow** for sin **that leads to repentance without regret, just blessing!**

2 Corinthians 7:8-11

8 For though I caused you **sorrow** by my letter, [of rebuke and correction] I do not regret it; though I did regret it, *for* I see that that letter caused you **sorrow**, though only for a short time 9 I now rejoice, not because you were made **sorrowful**, but because you were made **sorrowful to the point of repentance**; for you were made **sorrowful according to the will of God**, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us.

10 For the **sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation**, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

11 See how much earnestness **this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you:** what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

**Satan’s condemnation and worldly sorrow bring death. But God’s conviction of sin, brings a godly sorrow that leads us to repentance without regret, just blessing!**

**deny self, fix our eyes on Jesus & walk in His glorious light!**

## Other Studies in our Salvation Series

- Once Saved Always Saved?
- Assurance of Salvation



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comfortable christianity with pampering messages...

# what about repentance?



what is repentance?  
is repentance important?

Salvation Series Bible Study

## False Teachings

“Many false prophets will arise and will deceive many”  
Matt. 24:11

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires. 2 Tim. 4:3

### How do we identify False Teachings?

#### 1. False Teachers Are Often ‘Exclusive’ or ‘Cultic’

A common trait of false teachers is exclusivity. They teach a unique ‘truth’ that is unique to them. They often believe that they are the only ones entrusted with a certain ‘truth’ or that they were given ‘special revelation’ and that everyone else is wrong. This is dangerous and cultic. Exclusivity, isolation and ‘unique’ teachings are common characteristics of false teachers.

#### 2. False Teachers Mix Truth With Error

False teaching usually comes with a mixture of truth and error. This was the tactic the enemy used right from the beginning and a tactic he used against Jesus in the wilderness. False teachers often take a part of God’s word, a part truth that suits them, and turn it into doctrine. Then they even do the unthinkable! They ignore or try to explain away verses that don’t fit their false teaching.

#### 3. False Teachers Ignore Context

We should always let scripture interpret scripture as much as possible and read individual portions of scripture in the light of all scripture, 2 Tim. 2:15. But, like Satan who has deceived them, false teachers take a part of the truth and over emphasise it. They “distort” it, 2 Pet. 3:15&16! They often interpret a part truth, isolated from its context, but they always ignore the context of the whole of scripture! These signs should sound alarm bells.

### Exposing False Teaching

False teaching will always fail the test of sound doctrine when it is exposed to the light of the whole of scripture.

The false teachings we are exposing in this bible study, claim that, repentance from sin, confession of sin, and asking for forgiveness for sin, is not necessary for a Christian. And it is all deceptively wrapped up in ‘grace’!

It also teaches immediate unconditional salvation, once saved always saved, and because of ‘grace’ we are not condemned even if we rebelliously continue to practice sin.

Parentheses = (fuller meaning of Hebrew/Greek from Strong’s Concordance)  
Brackets = [clarifying comments]

## “Repent And Turn”

Peter said, “Repent then, and turn (return, turn toward) again [to God], so that (towards) [toward a goal, as a result] your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the Lord’s presence” Acts 3:19

[forgiveness & the gift of righteousness is the result of biblical repentance!]

Paul describing his Gospel message said, “...I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, 20 but kept declaring [everywhere]...that they should repent, and turn to God, performing deeds (actions) appropriate (worthy of, comparable) to repentance.” Acts 26:19 & 20

### What is Repentance?

Let the wicked forsake his way & the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD... Isa. 55:7  
Sin separates us from God!

Is. 59:2, 1 Cor. 15:17, Ex. 32:33, Rom. 8:6-8, Ps. 66:18

To repent means ‘to change your mind’. Repentance is a wholehearted change in our attitudes and thinking about sin and ourselves so that we turn to God. True repentance always produces “actions comparable to repentance” Repentance does not accommodate and hide sin! Repentance acknowledges sin, confesses sin and renounces sin! Prov. 28:13, Ps. 32:5, 1 Jn. 1:9, Jas. 5:16 Titus 2:11-14 says, For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing (training) us [Christians] to deny (refuse) ungodliness & worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, to redeem us from every iniquity (sin), and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good works (actions).

### Is Repentance Important?

“Repent” was the first word of John the Baptist’s gospel message, before the cross & the new creation. Matt. 3:1-2  
“Repent” was the first word of Jesus’ gospel before His redemptive work on the cross. Matt. 4:14 & Mk. 1:14-15  
“Repent” was the first word of the 12 disciples message when Jesus sent them out before the cross. Mk. 6:12  
“Repent” was the first word in the gospel Jesus (after His resurrection) said we were to proclaim! Lk. 24:46-47  
“Repent” was the first word used by Peter in the very first Christian gospel message. Acts 2:37, 38  
“Repent” was the first word used in Paul’s description of his gospel message to everyone, everywhere! Acts 26:19-20

## Paul Warns Christians about Not Repenting!

### 2 Corinthians 12:20-21

20 For I am afraid that perhaps when I come, I may not find you as I wish... that perhaps there will be quarreling, jealousy, angry tempers, ambitious rivalry, slanders, gossip, arrogance, disturbances; 21 I am afraid that when I come again my God will humiliate me before you and I will mourn over many of those who have sinned in the past & have not repented of (against) [from] impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced. [they still practiced sin that they had not yet repented of] In Matt. 7:23, Jesus said “...I never knew you; depart from me you who practiced (committed, performed) iniquity (sin, unrighteousness)” [they had not repented]

### 1 John 1:6-9

6 If we [Christians, & John includes himself!] say that we have fellowship with Him but still walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth, 7 but if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we CONFESS our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Despite ‘we’ & ‘us’, in 1 Jn. 1 above, one false teacher even claims, that it was not written to Christians, but to Gnostics! This claim is a desperate & deceitful lie.

1 Jn. 2:14 says, ...I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, & you have overcome the evil one. Also vs 26 says, These things I have written to you [Christians] concerning those [Gnostics] who are trying to deceive you.

Who is trying to deceive us now? Don’t be deceived!

### Accommodate Or Abhor & Put Off Sin?

Rom. 12:9 says, Abhor what is evil cling to what is good. Eph. 4:22-24 says, that, in reference to your former way of life, you put off (put away, renounce) the old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful lusts, 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

We can’t put on the new self without putting off the old self. To try is futile and a completely hypocritical ‘put-on’.

Repentance is to both, put off [“abhor” & “renounce”] the old self and to put on our amazing new self in Christ.