

# THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

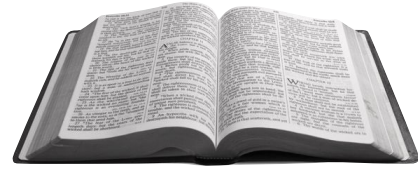
Luke 24:47

Lesson #23

Repentance and Salvation

06/09/2019

## How to read the Old Testament



How is repentance  
related to salvation?



### What did he mean by **repent**?

1. Repentance has to do with change  
in the way we see things.

Matthew 6:22

“The lamp of the body is the eye; if therefore your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.”

#### Three common **MISPERCEPTIONS**:

1. **Strong feelings** = Repentance
2. **Changed behavior** = Repentance
3. **Social relocation** = Repentance

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### What did he mean by **repent**?

1. Repentance has to do with change  
in the way we see things.



## Repent

**metanoeo**

**meta** - “after”

**noeo** - “to perceive”

“to renew or change perception”

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Acts 26:18

“to **open their eyes** so that they may **turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God**, in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me”

Repentance that saves

is a “**domain**” change

based on **insight**

that leads to **faith** and **good works**.

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True Repentance starts with **Insight**  
but does not stop there.

The Prodigal  
Son

Luke  
15:11~32

✓ **Pain** (feeling the heat)

✓ **Insight** (seeing the light)

✓ **Faith** (risking the move)

✓ **Action** (embracing the home)

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*2 Timothy 2:26*

“and they may **come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil**, having been held captive by him to do his will.”

*Romans 12*

“<sup>1</sup> I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, (**insight**) to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind (**perception**), that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. ”

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## 2. Penitent **faith** is our **step** into the Kingdom of God.



(the sin of unbelief)  
**Worldly hopes**



**Kingdom hopes**

## Conversion to faith in Christ

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## Repentance in the O.C. is distinct from that in the N.C.

*Ezekiel 18*

“<sup>21</sup> But if the wicked man **turns from all his sins** which he has committed and observes all My statutes and practices justice and righteousness, **he shall surely live**; he shall not die. <sup>22</sup> All his transgressions which he has committed will not be remembered against him; **because of his righteousness which he has practiced**, he will live.”

**Works righteousness** is the O.C. emphasis. even though “faith righteousness” is mentioned, but only in **Gen.15:6**.

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## Jesus proclaimed the good news that the promised kingdom of God was at hand.

*Mark 1*

“<sup>14</sup> And after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; **repent and believe in the gospel.**””

He expected his listeners to **believe** this - turn away (**repent**) from worldly hopes and see in Christ the fulfillment of Israel's promises.

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The N.C. viewed God's kingdom as spiritual / eternal **and was accessed by turning from hope in works righteousness to faith righteousness.**

*Hebrews 6:1*

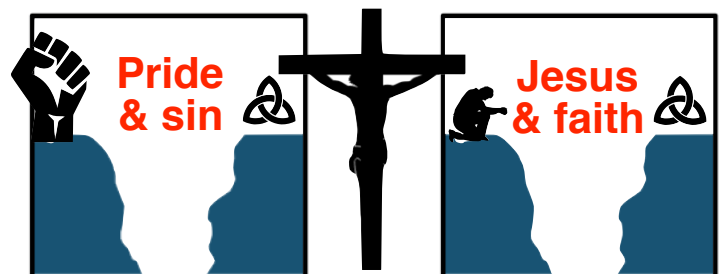
“let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from **dead works and of faith toward God,**”

*Hebrews 9:14*

“<sup>14</sup> how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, **cleanse your conscience from dead works** to serve the living God? <sup>15</sup> And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant,”

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## **The Barrier between a Sinner and God**



Before

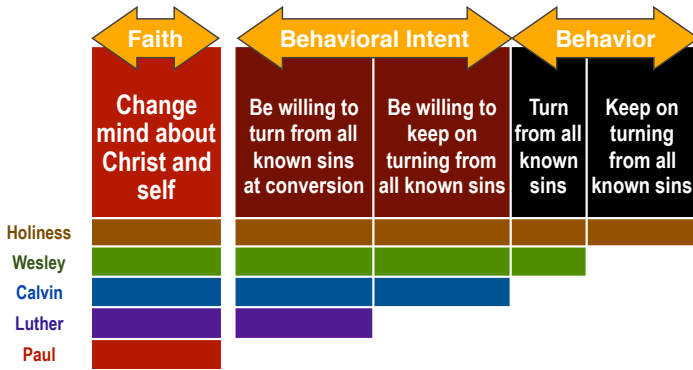
and

After

## the Cross

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## Mixing the covenants has led to **confusion** concerning the Christian Gospel.



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## Hebrews 6

“<sup>1</sup> Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a **foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God**,<sup>2</sup> of instruction about washings, and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup> And this we shall do, if God permits. <sup>4</sup> For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit,<sup>5</sup> and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, <sup>6</sup> and then have fallen away, **it is impossible to renew them again to repentance**, since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God, and put Him to open shame.”

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## Hebrews 10

“<sup>26</sup> For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, **there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins**,

**For those who reject the Cross of Christ the O.C. is no longer a shelter from God's wrath.**

Hebrews 3:12-19, 10:14-18

“<sup>14</sup> For **by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified**.<sup>15</sup> And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, <sup>16</sup> “This is the covenant that I will make with them After those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws upon their heart, And upon their mind I will write them,” He then says,<sup>17</sup> “And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”<sup>18</sup> Now where there is forgiveness of these things, **there is no longer any offering for sin.**”

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## 3. Repentance is an **opportunity** and human **responsibility**.

### Acts 11

“<sup>17</sup> If God therefore gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way? <sup>18</sup> And when they heard this, they quieted down, and glorified God, saying, “Well then, **God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life.**”

“Gentiles also” – All outside the covenant community of Israel were without the **opportunity** (not **ability**) to repent until they became Jews?



**“The Gospel”**  
(not repentance)  
**may be God's gift.**

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## 2 Timothy 2:24-26

“<sup>24</sup> And the Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to **teach**, patient when wronged, <sup>25</sup> with gentleness **correcting** those who are in opposition, if perhaps **God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth**,<sup>26</sup> and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.”

Is God's gift the **ability** to repent or **opportunity** (through correction) to repent?



**“Corrective teaching”**  
(not repentance)  
**may be God's gift.**

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## Is repentant faith a gift from God to some and not others?

### Ephesians 2:8

“For by grace you have been saved through **faith**; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;”

Neuter

Feminine

John Calvin (**unlike many of his followers**) did not use this text to support his view that faith was a gift from God (Acts 18:27, Phil. 1:29).



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## Is repentant faith a gift to the elect only?

*Ephesians 2:8*

“For by grace you have been saved through faith;  
and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;”

“Grace is God’s part, faith ours.”

“That” refers to the act of being saved by  
grace conditioned on our faith.”

*A.T. Robertson, Word Pictures in the New Testament, Vol.IV, p.525*

### **Paraphrase**

**“Salvation by grace (received by faith) is  
a gift of God. This system of salvation, based  
on God’s imputed righteousness through  
Christ (not our meritorious works), means  
that we have nothing to boast about.**

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## Summary

1. Repentance has to do with change  
**in the way we see things.**

Repentance starts on the **inside** (head  
and heart) but should never stop there.

2. Penitent **faith** is **our step** into the  
Kingdom of God.
3. Repentance is an **opportunity** and our  
**responsibility.**

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