

No Repentance, No Fellowship

Introduction

Scripture Reading: Luke 13:1-5

1. The Bible clearly says that God created mankind.
 - A. It teaches that His aim in doing so was for us to be in fellowship with Him.
2. However, from the time that human beings chose to sin and as a result became separated from God, the Lord has demanded repentance as a condition to come back into a right relationship with Him.
Luke 13:1-5
3. In both the Old and New Testaments, repentance is a basic requirement in man's responsibility towards his creator against whom we've transgressed.
4. In the lesson this morning, we will consider the spiritual implications that are contained in Jesus' statement **"unless you repent."**

Wabush, a town in a remote portion of Labrador, Canada, was completely isolated for some time. But recently a road was cut through the wilderness to reach it. Wabush now has one road leading into it, and thus, only one road leading out. If someone would travel the unpaved road for six to eight hours to get into Wabush, there is only way he or she could leave — by turning around.

Each of us, will eventually arrive in a town called Sin. As in Wabush, there is only one way out--a road built by God himself. But in order to take that road, one must first turn around. That complete about face is what the Bible calls repentance, and without it, there's no way out of sin.

The Need for Repentance

1. **The Bible teaches that all responsible people are guilty of sin and deserves punishment**

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

2. **Why is the unrepentant person condemned?**

- A. **Sin is a transgression and lawlessness — acting in violation of God’s will.**

1 John 3:4 Whoever commits sin also **commits lawlessness**, and sin is lawlessness.

- 1) **Sin may be “commission” – doing what is not right.**

1 John 5:17 All **unrighteousness** is sin...

- 2) **Sin may be a “omission” – failing to do right.**

James 4:17 Therefore, **to him who knows to do good and does not do it**, to him it is sin.

Hindrances to Repentance

1. **Stubbornness – usually resulting from pride and malice:**
Acts 7:51-58

2. **A lack of sorrow for sin – godly sorrow produces true repentance:**
2 Corinthians 7:10-11

3. **Ignorance – it could be that some people may be ignorant of what sin is or ignorant that what they have done is sin. SAUL:**

1 Timothy 1:12-13 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; **but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.**

- A. **A sin committed in ignorance is still a sin.**

The Urgency of Repentance

1. Jesus's statement **"Unless you repent, you will likewise perish."**
 - A. This underscores how urgent repentance is!
Acts 17:30-31
2. Those who are lost in sin need to repent in order to be saved.
Acts 2:36-38
3. Those who have erred from the faith need to repent to be restored.
Acts 8:20-22

Conclusion

1. I believe that everyone in the assembly this morning understands this – I haven't provided anything new.
2. However, as Christians, we need to remember these basic Biblical principles.
3. We also need to share the message of repentance of sins to a lost and dying world — many, many need to hear it!
Luke 24:46-47
4. If we do not repent, then we do not have fellowship with God.
 - A. The unrepentant person has NO hope of heaven, and will be condemned for an eternity with the Devil. An eternity there will mean that there will be no end of **"weeping and gnashing of teeth."**

