

**ESTABLISHED: REPENTANCE  
II CORINTHIANS 7:9-11**

**THE 1ST MOVE WE MAKE TOWARD GOD IS COGNITIVE/MENTAL ONE OF FAITH:**

*HEBREWS 11:6 "BUT WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM: FOR HE THAT COMETH TO GOD MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS, AND THAT HE IS A REWARDER OF THEM THAT DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM."*

**BUT THE 1ST STEP OF ACTION WE TAKE TOWARDS GOD IS REPENTANCE!**

**IN MODERN CHRISTIANITY IT IS COMMON TO HEAR PEOPLE ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO "ACCEPT THE LORD AS THEIR PERSONAL SAVIOR" AS A STEP TOWARDS GOD...BUT THE BIBLE NEVER TALKS ABOUT US ACCEPTING THE LORD! QUITE OPPOSITE IN FACT, WE ARE THANKFUL THAT HE ACCEPTS US!!**

**SO ACCEPTANCE IS NOT THE FIRST KEY ACTIVE STEP, BUT REPENTANCE IS... BIBLE TEACHES THAT CONVERSION CANNOT TAKE PLACE W/O REPENTANCE!**

*JESUS SAID IN LUKE 13:3 "I TELL YOU, NAY: BUT, EXCEPT YE REPENT, YE SHALL ALL LIKEWISE PERISH."*

**IN FACT BOTH JESUS AND JOHN THE BAPTIST BEGAN AND ENDED THEIR EARTHLY MINISTRIES WITH CALLS FOR REPENTANCE...**

*MATTHEW 3:1-2 "IN THOSE DAYS CAME JOHN THE BAPTIST, PREACHING IN THE WILDERNESS OF JUDAEA, AND SAYING, REPENT YE: FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND."*

**SO JOHN THE BAPTIST STARTED HIS MINISTRY WITH A CALL TO REPENTANCE, AND HIS MINISTRY AND LIFE WERE ENDED BECAUSE OF HIS CALL FOR HEROD TO REPENT OF HIS EVIL WAYS...HIS HEAD ENDED UP ON A PLATTER!!**

*MATTHEW 4:17 "FROM THAT TIME JESUS BEGAN TO PREACH, AND TO SAY, REPENT: FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND."*

**PRIOR TO HIS ASCENSION TO HEAVEN, HIS EARTHLY MINISTRY CONCLUDING:**

*LUKE 24:47 "AND THAT REPENTANCE AND REMISSION OF SINS SHOULD BE PREACHED IN HIS NAME AMONG ALL NATIONS, BEGINNING AT JERUSALEM."*

**JESUS HIMSELF DECLARING THAT THE MESSAGE OF REPENTANCE MUST BE PREACHED IN EVERY NATION... NOTE THIS...**

**NOT THE MESSAGE OF SELF-HELP.  
NOT THE IDEA OF INNER-ENLIGHTENMENT.  
NOT THE THOUGHT THAT WE JUST MIGHT ALL BE GODS OURSELVES.  
NOT THE IDEA OF GETTING BY WITH THERAPY OR MEDICATION.  
BUT EVERYONE IN EVERY PLACE NEEDS TO FIND A PLACE OF REPENTANCE!!**

**THE NEED FOR REPENTANCE IS UNIVERSAL BECAUSE SIN IS UNIVERSAL!!  
AND THE ONLY ANTIDOTE TO SIN STARTS WITH REPENTANCE!!**

**SIN HAS TOUCHED AND AFFECTS EVERY LIFE SINCE IT ENTERED INTO THE WORLD THROUGH THE FALL OF ADAM IN THE GARDEN.**

***ROMANS 5:12 "WHEREFORE, AS BY ONE MAN SIN ENTERED INTO THE WORLD, AND DEATH BY SIN; AND SO DEATH PASSED UPON ALL MEN, FOR THAT ALL HAVE SINNED."***

***ROMANS 3:10 "AS IT IS WRITTEN, THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NO, NOT ONE."***

***ROMANS 3:23 "FOR ALL HAVE SINNED, AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD."***

**WEBSTERS DEF. OF REPENTANCE: "TO FEEL SORRY OR SELF-REPROACHFUL FOR WHAT ONE HAS DONE OR HASN'T DONE; TO FEEL SO CONTRITE OVER ONE'S SINS AS TO CHANGE OR DECIDE TO CHANGE ONE'S WAYS."**

**BIBLICAL REPENTANCE AND GODLY SORROW IS AN INWARD CHANGE OF ATTITUDE LEADING TO AN OUTWARD CHANGE OF ACTION. UNLESS BOTH OF THESE OCCUR THAN REAL REPENTANCE/SORROW HASN'T HAPPENED YET.**

**THE NATURE OF REPENTANCE IS NOT ONLY A TURNING FROM, BUT ALSO A TURNING TO. IT WILL CAUSE A PERSON TO STOP A WRONG ACTION AND BEGIN A RIGHT ONE. REPENTANCE IS A TURNING POINT IN OUR LIFE!!!**

***II CORINTHIANS 7:10 "FOR GODLY SORROW WORKETH REPENTANCE TO SALVATION NOT TO BE REPENTED OF: BUT THE SORROW OF THE WORLD WORKETH DEATH."***

**THERE IS A HUGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GODLY SORROW AND THE WORLD'S IDEA OF SORROW. MERELY FEELING SORRY FOR OR REGRETTING SOMETHING WE HAVE DONE WRONG IS NOT YET TRUE REPENTANCE.**

**MATTHEW 27:3 TELLS US THAT JUDAS REPENTED BUT HIS REPENTANCE WAS MERE REGRET. PARENTS CATCH THEIR KIDS DOING SOMETHING RED-HANDED AND THE KID IS "SORRY", BUT FAR FROM REPENTANT...**

**GODLY SORROW MUST BE FELT SO DEEPLY THAT IT PRODUCES A CHANGE OF MIND, ATTITUDE, AND DIRECTION IN US. SORROW AND REGRET THAT WE GOT CAUGHT IS ONE THING, BUT REPENTANCE PRODUCES REAL CHANGE!!!**

**JACOB: GENESIS 35  
NINEVAH: JONAH 3  
NEBUCHADNEZZAR: DANIEL 4**

**THIS MAY BE SHOCKING TO SOME OF YOU, BUT EVEN AFTER WE ARE BORN AGAIN, THERE WILL BE TIMES OF FAILURE AND SIN IN OUR LIVES. AS CHRISTIANS WE TRY TO LIVE A LIFE ABOVE SIN, BUT OCCASIONALLY WE FALL SHORT AND FAIL GOD. WHICH IS WHEN WE NEED TO REPENT AGAIN!!**

***I JOHN 2:1-2 "MY LITTLE CHILDREN, THESE THINGS WRITE I UNTO YOU, THAT YE SIN NOT. AND IF ANY MAN SIN, WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE (LAWYER OR COMFORTER) WITH THE FATHER, JESUS CHRIST THE RIGHTEOUS: AND HE IS THE PROPITIATION (SATISFACTION) FOR OUR SINS: AND NOT FOR OURS ONLY, BUT ALSO FOR THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD."***

**WHAT DOES GOD DO WITH OUR SINS ONCE WE REPENT OF THEM?**

**1. HE PUTS THEM IN THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.**

*MICAH 7:19 "HE WILL TURN AGAIN, HE WILL HAVE COMPASSION UPON US: HE WILL SUBDUE OUR INIQUITIES; AND WILT CAST ALL THEIR SINS INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA."*

MARIANAS TRENCH IS THE DEEPEST PART OF THE OCEAN AT 6.85 MILES DEEP. YOU CAN TAKE MT. EVEREST AT 29,029 FEET AND DUMP IT INTO THE TRENCH AND STILL HAVE 6,811 FEET OF WATER TO PLAY IN...

**2. HE PUTS OUR SINS BEHIND HIS BACK.**

*ISAIAH 38:17 "BEHOLD, FOR PEACE I HAD GREAT BITTERNESS: BUT THOU HAST IN LOVE TO MY SOUL DELIVERED IT FROM THE PIT OF CORRUPTION: FOR THOU HAST CAST ALL MY SINS BEHIND THY BACK."*

**3. HE REMOVES THEM AN IMMEASURABLE DISTANCE FROM US.**

*PSALMS 103:12 "AS FAR AS THE EAST IS FROM THE WEST, SO FAR HATH HE REMOVED OUR TRANSGRESSIONS FROM US."*

THE DISTANCE FROM NORTH TO SOUTH CAN BE MEASURED, BUT NOT E TO W!

**4. HE DOES NOT REMEMBER THEM ANYMORE.**

*JEREMIAH 31:34 "...FOR I WILL FORGIVE THEIR INIQUITY, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SIN NO MORE."*

**II CORINTHIANS 7:9-11: READ**

**SEVEN THINGS HAPPEN WHEN WE REPENT WITH GODLY SORROW...**

- 1. CAREFULNESS: A WATCHFULNESS LEST WE CONTINUE TO SIN.**
- 2. CLEARING: FREEING OURSELVES FROM GUILT/CONDEMNATION.**
- 3. INDIGNATION: A HATRED FOR SIN IS DEVELOPED.**
- 4. FEAR: RESPECT FOR GOD AND HIS COMMANDMENTS/WAYS.**
- 5. VEHEMENT (INTENSE, PASSIONATE, MARKED BY GREAT ENERGY OR EXERTION) DESIRE: TO BE RIGHTEOUS AND OBEDIENT WITH PASSION.**
- 6. ZEAL: IN WORKING FOR GOD AND HIS CAUSE.**
- 7. REVENGE: AGAINST THE DEVIL AND SIN THAT BOUND US..."SUCCESS IS THE BEST REVENGE"...AGAINST THE DEVIL THIS IS TRUE!!**