

REPENT!

Here's a word that is found in the Bible about 45 times with a few variations. In this article we will dwell on only the one meaning pertaining to having a complete change in our attitudes and lives that leads to Salvation.

True Repentance results in a complete reversal of direction -- such as -- once heading north now heading south, once heading east now heading west -- once heading to hell now heading to Heaven.

John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness said, "*Repent -- for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand*" (Matthew 3:2).

Jesus Christ taught, "*Repent and Believe the Gospel*" (Mark 1:15).

The Apostle Peter said, "*Repent, and be Baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins*" (Acts 2:38) -- and -- "*Repent therefore, and be Converted that your sins may be blotted out*" (Acts 3:19).

The Apostle Paul taught, "*God . . . now commanded all men everywhere to Repent*" (Acts 17:30) -- and -- "*He showed first . . . that they should Repent and turn to God, and do works meet for Repentance*" (Acts 16:20).

Jesus taught through the Apostle John, "*Remember from where you are fallen, and Repent*" (Revelation 2:5) -- and -- "*As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten -- be zealous therefore and Repent*" (Revelation 3:19).

Each of these, Jesus Himself, John the Baptist, the Apostles Peter and Paul all have the same theme running through their messages -- the urgency of Repenting without delay because time is short, and it is commanded by God. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand -- the Kingdom of God is at hand -- Repent and be Baptized -- Repent and turn to God -- All men must Repent -- Be Zealous and Repent.

This is the Basic Message of the Bible -- the Good News of the Gospel -- to have a change in our lives because one day we will all stand before the God of the Universe and give answer as to why we should be allowed into His Heaven.

To Repent is to Totally Surrender to the Will of God -- to commit one's self to obey God's Commands -- to do all we can to bring others to a Saving Knowledge of the Abundant Life Jesus Christ offers.

You might question -- Is all of this really necessary? Must I attempt to follow the teachings of the Bible in today's society? The answer is really quite clear -- YES!

-- and for what reason? Simply because God has a wonderful plan for each of us to be successful in this life -- and to be worthy of His Life Everlasting.

Jesus proclaimed, "*I have come that they might have Life -- and that they might have it More Abundantly*" (John 10:10). God loves us and wants the Very Best for us -- Now and for Eternity -- and this is only possible by a Repentant Life and Knowledge only He can provide. It is a Gift! -- "*For by Grace you are Saved through Faith, and not of yourselves, it is the Gift of God, not of works, lest any man could boast*" (Ephesians 2:8,9).

As quoted in several statements above -- "*Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand.*" Jesus made it very clear in that He is Coming Again and we must be ready for Him to take us to Heaven.

ARE YOU READY? HAVE YOU REPENTED? ARE YOU SAVED?

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