

Hebrews 6 Foundation of Repentance of Dead Works Part 3- Pastor Larry

Pre-TEXT: Hebrews 6:1- The foundation of Repentance of Dead works

Repentance from dead works is the first act after believing upon Jesus as the Christ

Review: Acts that lead to death literally means “dead works,”

Two areas of dead works

1. Works done before Christ and salvation that have no life
 - A. Sinful deeds
 - B. Religious works of self righteousness- works of the Law
2. Works done after salvation that are not God breathed
 - A. Good works are not always God works - "I know your works....."
 - B. Grace teaches us that returning to the law is a dead work

I. Let everything be done for the glory of god.....

1Corinthians 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye **do, do** all to the **glory** of God.

You should bear fruit and it should remain

John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

For instance Two exact businesses could be started and one is a dead work and the other is living.

If a church forgets its purpose and vision, it can sway away from living works to dead works.

We are not necessarily called to do every good work. Many churches are pulled off the target with good intentions. Satan will always use this strategy. Keeping us busy with dead works. B.U.S.Y. Being under Satan's yoke

B-eing U-nder S-atan's Y-oke?

Satan called a worldwide convention of demons.....

II. Repentance

A. What does the word repent mean?

The word that is translated as repent in the New Testament is the Greek word "metanoeo". It means to change one's mind, to turn back or to turn away. Therefore when one repents, we turn away from old things and leave them behind.

2 Peter 3:9: The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

So what do we do when we repent?

When we were unsaved, we lived in the flesh, but were Spiritually dead. The Biblical message of repentance is to turn away from the worldly/fleshly way of conducting our lives and turn to the path that God has set out for mankind. It means to reject man's system as the answer to the problems of life and accept God's perfect system as the source of guidance – and that guidance comes from the Holy Spirit.

True repentance is accepting that we are sinners, that all of us fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 3: 23 For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God;

Once we have accepted this principle, we will realize that there is NOTHING we can do to save ourselves. In our searching's, when we first come face to face with a perfect and Holy God, we soon accept and understand just how totally lost we are and how desperately we need a Savior – someone to save us, and that's where, through the Grace of God, His precious son, Jesus, comes in.

John preached repentance-

Luke 3:2-3 (KJV)

² Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.

³ And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

Jesus' first command was to repent

Mark 1:14-15 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel,"

Jesus' last command was for the disciples to preach repentance unto all nations.

Luke 24:46-47 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

This is another absolute truth in believing in Jesus, in becoming a Christian. It is essential for salvation.

Peter did this in Jerusalem

Acts 2:37-38 (KJV)

³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?

³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Note when Jesus said this:

Luke 13: 3 I tell you, No. But unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

(In context "Likewise" as in, what had fallen upon the Galileans and others who died in groups recently. This was a warning specifically to Israel as a nation and probably prophetic of the future destruction in 70 AD. According to Josephus the Jewish historian, only the Christians in Jerusalem got out and survived the Roman destruction in 70 AD.)

The just need no repentance

Luke 15:7 (KJV)

⁷ I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

Luke 5:32 (KJV)

³² I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

1 John 1:9 (KJV)

⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In Context 1 John 1:9 was written to gnostic unbelievers who were pretending to be religious, not to Christians, just like John chapter one. They need to "confess" their sins and repent. 1 John Chapter 2 was written to Christians. The unbelievers are unrighteous and needed to confess their sins. According to chapter two, Christians who sin are still washed by the blood and have an advocate with the Father in Jesus but are told to stop sinning but never calls them unrighteous.

While repentance is generally for the sinner because of his unrighteousness, a Christian who has fallen in sin should also confess and repent of his sins, not for fear of hell but for broken relationship with the father.

B. So, what is meant by "repentance from dead works"?

Heb 9: 11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. 13For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies to the purifying of the flesh: 14How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Once we become saved, the blood of Christ will change our conscience from the old sinful dead works into the new works (actions) of serving the living God.

"Repentance from dead works", therefore, is the doctrine that says we must repent from trusting in our own works to save us, which are dead works. Instead, we must trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation.

Hebrews 10:1-4

- 1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.
- 2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.
- 3 But in those *sacrifices there is* a remembrance again *made* of sins every year.
- 4 For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

The trap is to be so sin conscience that we return to dead works to please God. The strength of sin is the law. (I Cor. 15:56) Guilt and condemnation create a more sinful person, not a less sinful person. God doesn't guilt us into salvation he convicts us. His grace tells us he loves us and judged sin already in Jesus.

But we must first repent of our sins and allow his blood to wash us.

III. Repentance and Confession (not saying I'm sorry)

Generally repentance is for the unbeliever:

Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

Luke 5:30 But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against his disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners? ³¹ And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. ³² I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Confession is for the believer

I John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Paul says he taught repentance toward God and faith toward Jesus as a foundation

Acts 20:20-21

²⁰ *And* how I kept back nothing that was profitable *unto you*, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,

²¹ Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Conclusion: It's God's kindness that leads us to repentance

Romans 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Satan called a worldwide convention of demons. In his opening address he said, "We can't keep Christians from going to church. We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth. We can't even keep them from forming an intimate relationship with their savior. Once they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So let them go to their churches; let them have their covered Dish dinners, but steal their time, so they don't have time to develop a real relationship with Jesus Christ." "This is what I want you to do", said the devil. "Distract them from gaining hold of their Savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!" "How shall we do this?" his demons shouted. "Keep them busy in the nonessentials of life and invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds," he answered:

a.. Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, and borrow, borrow, borrow.

b.. Persuade the husbands and wives to go to work for long hours, 12-14 hours a day, so they can afford their empty lifestyles.

c.. Keep them from spending time with their children. As their families fragment, soon, their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work!

d.. Over-stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that 'still, small voice.'

e.. Fill the coffee tables with magazines and newspapers. Pound their minds with the news 24 hours a day. Invade their driving moments with billboards. Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, mail order catalogs, sweepstakes, and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering free products, services and false hopes.

f. Give them Santa Claus to distract them from teaching their children the real meaning of Christmas.

g.. Give them an Easter bunny so they won't talk about his resurrection.

h.. Even in their recreation, let them be excessive...have them return from their recreation exhausted. Keep them too busy to go out in nature and reflect on God's creation. Send them to amusement parks!, sporting events, plays, concerts, and movies instead.

i. Keep them busy, busy, busy! And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, they will leave with troubled consciences.

j.. For those who resist all the temptations of television and worldly pursuits, crowd their lives with so many good causes that they have no time for inner search. Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of the cause.

'It will work! It will work!!'

It was quite a convention. The evil angels went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get more busy and more rushed, going here and there. I guess the question is: Has the devil been successful at his scheme? You be the judge! Does "busy" mean: