

Mark 1:1-5

Repentance

A person with a backpack is walking away from the camera on a long wooden pier that stretches across a body of water. The scene is captured at sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden light illuminating the sky and the water. The pier is made of wooden planks and has a railing on the right side. In the background, there are some buildings and trees along the shore.

Repentance

- The trumpeting of the shofar was a Jewish call to prepare, something vitally important was happening and must be responded to
 - It was a call to arms in ancient times when the city was being attacked
 - It was a call when a new king was anointed
 - Mostly, it was used as a call of repentance
 - Jewish Rabbi and philosopher Moses ben Maimon wrote that even though the blowing of the shofar is a Biblical statute, it is also a symbolic "wake-up call", stirring Jews to mend their ways and repent: "Sleepers, wake up from your slumber! Examine your ways and repent and remember your Creator."

Repentance

- **Ecclesiastes 12:1 NIV**, Remember your Creator (*especially*) in the days of your youth
 - Examine your life – thoughts, emotions, desires, decisions, responses
 - Return to the Creator who loves you
 - **Psalms 139:23-24 NIV**, 23 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

Repentance

- The Hebrew word for repentance is teshuvah which means *“to return”*
 - One of the Hebrew words for sin is chet, which means *“to go astray”*
 - The idea of repentance in Jewish thought is a return to the path of righteousness
- Repentance was term applied to a strong-willed sheep or goats that left their Shepherd, flock and wandered away
 - They had placed themselves in a position to get lost, hurt, and targeted by their enemies
 - It was called repentance when they saw, understood, and chose to return to the safety and provision provided by their Shepherd
 - To respond to the call of their Shepherd

Repentance

- Repentance is not just for initial salvation or the overtly gross sins
 - **Revelation 2:4-5 NIV**, 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.
 - **Isaiah 53:6 NIV**, We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Repentance

- The idea of repentance is found throughout Scripture
 - **2nd Chronicles 7:14 NIV**, If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.
 - You can't truly seek God's face until you turn and face Him
 - So often we seek God's hands to change some circumstance in our lives without the turning to His face

Repentance

- The first sermon from Jesus, **Matthew 4:17 NIV**, From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”
- The Apostles’ first sermon, **Acts 2:33-39 NIV**, 37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”
 - 38 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”
- The shofar was like the voice of John the Baptist calling Israel to prepare themselves to receive their promised Messiah through repentance

Scripture

- **Mark 1:1-5 ESV**, The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, 3 the voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight’”
 - 4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 5 And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Biblical Repentance is a response of total surrender

- Biblical repentance means *“to return”*
- Repentance is not merely a change of behavior
 - But because true repentance involves a change of heart and purpose, it will result in a change of behavior

Biblical Repentance is a response of total surrender

- Repentance is not just the sorrow from sin or grieving of circumstances
 - **Matthew 27:3-5 NIV**, 3 When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. 4 “I have sinned,” he said, “for I have betrayed innocent blood.” “What is that to us?” they replied. “That’s your responsibility.”5 So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.
 - Peter had a similar response as Judas, but he grieved for his denying of Jesus then he returned to the disciples

Biblical Repentance is a response of total surrender

- Repentance is not just a resolve to do better
 - Everyone who has ever made New Year's resolutions knows how easily human determination can be broken
- Repentance certainly is not penance, self-punishment to personally pay for one's own sins

Biblical Repentance is a response of total surrender

- Genuine repentance pleads with the Lord to forgive and deliverance from the burden of sin and the power of sin in their life
 - **Luke 18:13 NIV**, “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’”
 - Repentance shows in the attitude of the tax collector who, fearful of even looking toward heaven, smote his breast and cried, "God, be merciful to me, the sinner!"

Biblical Repentance is a response of total surrender

- You see salvation and repentance come into the life of a tax collector named Zacchaeus
 - **Luke 19:8-10 NIV**, 8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”
 - 9 Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

Repentance involves your intellect, emotions, and will (*volition*)

- The intellectual element of repentance is "a change of view, a recognition of personal sin, guilt, defilement, and helplessness"
 - **Psalm 51:3-4 NIV**, 3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
- The emotional element is "a change of feeling, manifesting itself in sorrow for sin committed against a holy God."
 - **Psalm 51:4 NIV**, 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

Repentance involves your intellect, emotions, and will (*volition*)

- The emotional element is "a change of feeling, manifesting itself in sorrow for sin committed against a holy God."
- Recognizing the impact your sinfulness has upon Jesus
 - **Luke 19:37-41 NIV**, 37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:
 - 38 "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" 39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" 40 "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."
 - 41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it

Repentance involves your intellect, emotions, and will (*volition*)

- The willful (*volitional*) element is "a change of purpose, an inward turning away from sin, and an attitude to seek pardon and cleansing, and renewal through faith."
 - **Psalm 51:10, 12-13 NIV**, 10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
 - 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.
- Repentance is a response of "total surrender"

Repentance is returning to find an accepting, loving, forgiving God

- Repentance is returning to your creator
 - **Genesis 1:1 NIV**, In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
 - **John 1:3 NIV**, Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.
 - **Colossians 1:16-17 NIV**, 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
 - **Ephesians 2:10 NIV**, For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Repentance is returning to find an accepting, loving, forgiving God

- Repentance is returning to your Savior
 - Repentance is returning or turning to the person of Jesus Christ
 - You have a Savior who demonstrated His love for you and His Heavenly Father by stepping into your sin debt, providing an acceptable payment for it on the cross
 - **Acts 3:19 NIV**, “Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.”
 - **Acts 4:12 NIV**, “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Repentance is returning to find an accepting, loving, forgiving God

- Repentance is returning to your Faith
 - **Ephesians 4:1-2 NIV**, 1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. 2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.
 - **Psalms 32:5 NIV**, Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Repentance is returning to find an accepting, loving, forgiving God

- Repentance is a Process
 - Repentance is a Position
 - Repentance is a Power
- A great benefit of repentance is receiving or returning to your
 - Peace that passes all understanding
 - Strength knowing nothing can separate you from the love of God
 - Joy that is unspeakable and full of glory
- All though the grace and mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 - A truly repentant heart has no fear of judgement from God

Repentance

- We will be observing the Lord's Supper next week and we need to prepare ourselves
- **1st Corinthians 11:27-30 NIV**, 27 So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. 28 Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. 29 For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves. 30 That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

Repentance

- We will be observing the Lord's Supper next week and we need to prepare ourselves
- **1st Corinthians 11:27-30 MSG**, 27-28 Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Master irreverently is like part of the crowd that jeered and spit on him at his death. Is that the kind of “remembrance” you want to be part of? Examine your motives, test your heart, come to this meal in holy awe.
 - **29-30** If you give no thought (or worse, don't care) about the broken body of the Master when you eat and drink, you're running the risk of serious consequences. That's why so many of you even now are listless and sick, and others have gone to an early grave.

Repentance

- No matter how you read and interpret these verses, God is very serious about how we partake of the Lord's Supper
 - And if God is serious about it, so should we
 - Begin preparing yourself now continuing through next week

Mark 1:1-5

Repentance

A person with a backpack is walking away from the camera on a long wooden pier or boardwalk. The pier is made of dark wooden planks and has two parallel lines of metal bolts running down its length. The person is wearing a brown jacket and blue jeans. The background shows a sunset or sunrise over a body of water, with silhouettes of trees and buildings in the distance. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.