

Drawing Close to the Lord

Living a Lifestyle of Repentance

Lent

The 40 weekdays from Ash Wednesday to Easter observed by the Roman Catholic, Eastern, and some Protestant churches as a period of penitence (repentance) and fasting

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor. “

Luke 4:18,19.

“From that time on Jesus began to preach, ‘Repent, the kingdom of heaven is near.’ “

Matt 4:17

Metanoia - a change of mind, as it appears to one who repents, of a purpose he has formed or of something he has done.

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?t=kjv&strongs=g3341>

Luke 15:17

“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

Repentance is about relationship – not religion.

What Lent truly pointed to...

Isaiah 58:6ff

The two “greatest commandments” –
other focused

The importance of the Word

A lamp to our feet...a light to our path

He will bring everything to your remembrance...John 14:26

A library for the Holy Spirit to draw on...

An area for repentance – judging.

An application of Romans 14:1-4

No Confidence in the Flesh

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have obtained all this , or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of the that for which Christ took hold of me...All of us should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

Philippians 3:12-16

Favorite verses – about repentance

Therefore I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our mind.

Romans 12:1,2

Holiness –

Seeing God in everyday life

- The prophetic
- Comments of others
- Circumstances

Holiness – Positional and Practical

- The righteousness of God in Christ Jesus
- The greatest commandments

Grieving and Quenching the Holy Spirit

The Danger of Not Heeding Correction

Insights from wisdom literature:

- Proverbs 10:17
- Proverbs 12:1

All the way to motives

Living and active...sharper than any two-edged sword...judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

An odd verse...

Song of Solomon 2:15

Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes
that ruin the vineyards..."

Little foxes...big foxes

application

The goal of a life of repentance is closeness to God. God is looking for a bride without spot or blemish.

Closeness comes when we neither grieve nor quench the Holy Spirit.

It is both the little and the big things which impact our relationship with Him.