

Let's Get Back to the Fundamentals: REPENTANCE

Pastor Kelly Word

Ezekiel 18:21-23

But if the wicked man turns from all his sins that he has committed and keeps all My statutes and does that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

22 None of his transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; for his righteousness which he has executed [for his moral and spiritual rectitude in every area and relation], he shall live.

23 Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked? says the Lord, and not rather that he should turn from his evil way and return [to his God] and live?

From the beginning with the fall of man, God has been trying to make a way for us to choose to be repentant. The entire Word of God is geared to God's grand plan for repentance and a restored relationship with Him. God sent Jesus to the earth. He was born during the feast of tabernacles. This is a picture of God making his tabernacle (dwelling place / habitation) in us. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us to teach us how to live. Then Jesus died. He was the perfect sacrifice to restore man's relationship with God. The shedding of His blood made a way for us to choose a life of repentance and obedience to God's Word. Then, Jesus rose again, and He is alive today praying for us at the right hand of God! Jesus made a way for our restored relationship with God! It's all through repentance and allowing the Holy Spirit to tabernacle in us!

Confess

1 John 1:9

If we [freely] admit that we have sinned and confess our sins, He is faithful and just (true to His own nature and promises) and will forgive our sins [dismiss our lawlessness] and [continuously] cleanse us from all unrighteousness [everything not in conformity to His will in purpose, thought, and action].

Revelation 2:4-5

But I have this [one charge to make] against you: that you have left (abandoned) the love that you had at first [you have deserted Me, your first love].

5 Remember then from what heights you have fallen. Repent (change the inner man to meet God's will) and do the works you did previously [when first you knew the Lord], or else I will visit you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you change your mind and repent.

Clean

Proverbs 28:13

He who covers his transgressions will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes his sins will obtain mercy. [Ps. 32:3, 5; 1 John 1:8-10.]

James 4:8-10

Come close to God and He will come close to you. [Recognize that you are] sinners, get your soiled hands clean; [realize that you have been disloyal] wavering individuals with divided interests, and purify your hearts [of your spiritual adultery].

9 [As you draw near to God] be deeply penitent and grieve, even weep [over your disloyalty]. Let your laughter be turned to grief and your mirth to dejection and heartfelt shame [for your sins].

10 Humble yourselves [feeling very insignificant] in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you [He will lift you up and make your lives significant].

Change

Acts 3:19

So repent (change your mind and purpose); turn around and return [to God], that your sins may be erased (blotted out, wiped clean), that times of refreshing (of recovering from the effects of heat, of reviving with fresh air) may come from the presence of the Lord;

Revelation 3:19-20

Those whom I [dearly and tenderly] love, I tell their faults and convict and convince and reprove and chasten [I discipline and instruct them]. So be enthusiastic and in earnest and burning with zeal and repent [changing your mind and attitude]. [Prov. 3:12.]

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears and listens to and heeds My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will eat with him, and he [will eat] with Me.