



WEEKLY CHRISTIAN FOCUS

REPENT NOW BEFORE THE TRIBULATION

Greetings. This article is about Repenting and also the Great Tribulation (Matthew 24: 21).

Let's start with that wonderful thing- Repentance. Trying to keep this as simple as possible, Repentance is the act of turning away from our own sins or wickedness and iniquity, to 'cease and desist' from them, as much as we possibly can, and turn to God for His Grace and help and ask Him to guide us in the right way.

This brings great relief to our hearts and minds. We start our Christian life with this act in some form. We are born again at that point as we accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for our sins on the Cross.

However there are some obstacles to repenting, and the main obstacle is time.



The time to repent that God allows people to have is not forever, it usually only lasts a limited time, and then God sees that the person or nation is not going to make the turn around, so then He takes often drastic action or 'judgement'.



Consider these verses as examples:

Revelation 2: 4

Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Revelation 2: 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

21 And I gave her space (time) to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

You will also remember that God, through Jonah, gave Nineveh just 40 days to turn around and repent. In their case and at that time they made it, much to Jonah's annoyance!

But sometimes people 'don't get' that time consideration of repentance. When both Jesus and

John the Baptist came, their first words were more or less 'flee from the wrath to come (That IS going to come)' (Luke 3:7 and Matthew 3:7, Matthew 3:2,

Matthew 4:17

From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.)

So, I think that is quite clear, perhaps tens or hundreds of thousands repented under the preaching of John the Baptist and Jesus Christ. We don't really know from Scripture on the stats!

But a significant amount of people did not repent at that time, and WRATH did come upon them. When we say 'Wrath', we are really saying God's wrath, which usually meant death or slavery or uprooting of a nation before that nation's enemies. We know from the four Gospels that such significant people, of high political importance did not repent, such as King Herod, Herod Antipas, Caiaphas the High Priest and just about all of the Scribes Pharisees and Sanhedrin, and a vast amount of the ordinary Jewish people.

There are reports of the violent and terrible deaths some of these people had after they were complicit and guilty of the death of their own Messiah. The wrath that came upon the nation was the destruction of their beloved city, Jerusalem, and their being expunged and thrust out into all nations about 40 years later, a judgement which continues to today really.

The ultimate best time to repent

and receive Jesus Christ, is the moment you hear that message.

Don't put it off, or your heart may grow harder, the devil can come along and snatch the seed sown out of your heart.

The ultimate best time to repent of any other sins, is also immediately when a man of God, or the Holy Spirit tells you.

Let me give you an example of what I mean from one of our previous articles written 2 and a half years ago.

Well, what am I trying to say?

I am trying to say two things today by the grace of God. The first is this: we must ask God to help us be or make us be more sensitive to the Loving Holy Spirit. God is waiting on us to stop doing things we know we shouldn't be doing. We could be a critical person and criticise and speak negatively of others. The Lord has warned us, pastors have spoken to you, you have not changed (sufficiently). You could be a person who is jealous, you could be someone who has some hidden sins that almost no one knows about like watching porn, drinking, smoking cursing, being selfish with your money and material things. Disrespecting your husband and making life so difficult for him and vice versa.

The list could truly go on. As believers who are trying to walk in 'newness of life', God wishes us to put on the new man or woman made in the Image of Jesus Christ, so that we are transformed from Glory to a greater Glory, like Him! It's a process.

Are we guilty like the Jews of not being sensitive to the Truth of the Word and the still small voice of the Holy Spirit? If that's the case, we should pray to be more sensitive and we should be aware, very much more than we are, of the coming chastisement God is going to bring us as much as He loves us. This is not a popular thing to say in today's namby pamby materialised, lovey-dovey, cozy-rosy relationship we all think we

have with 'The Lord'.



THE GREAT TRIBULATION

Well, what on earth does the Great Tribulation have to do with all this repentance? Not especially too much in fact, except for this important principle. Our time as believers is really NOW to cleanse ourselves of all these sins and shortcomings, so that when some form of great tribulation does come, as it inevitably will, our hearts and minds will be more purged and ready to face all kinds of difficulties, if we know we are right with Jesus Christ.

As this verse makes clear

1 Corinthians 11: 31

For if we searchingly examined ourselves [detecting our shortcomings and recognizing our own condition], we should not be judged and penalty decreed [by the divine judgment].

32 But when we [fall short and] are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined and chastened, so that we may not [finally] be condemned [to eternal punishment along] with the world.

I strongly urge all of us to make progress on these sins which do so easily beset us. The Lord will be pleased with all of us as we confess our sins one to another and ask for prayer.

As we have said in the beginning, there is **LITTLE TIME TO REPENT BEFORE WRATH AND JUDGEMENT**

Whether it is a 'normal tribulation' or The Great Tribulation Jesus spoke

of which will come before His return. Today the world as we write is struggling with the breakdown of oil supplies, fertilizers for all countries, without which famine and starvation are just about inevitable, and all this will affect the western world, just as much as anywhere else!

Let's pray for each other that we may be healed and made ready for the exciting days ahead! (James 5:16)

Love in Jesus

Jerry for the WCF Team

Matthew 24: 21, 29,30,31 For then there will be great tribulation (affliction, distress, and oppression) such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now—no, and never will be [again].

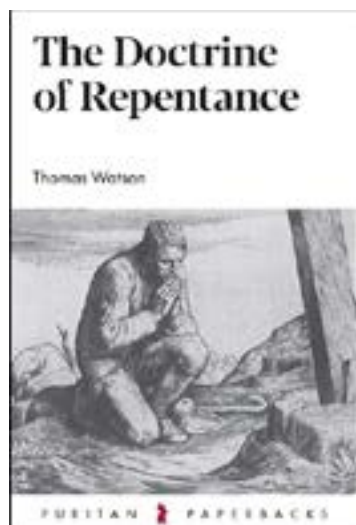
29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not shed its light, and the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn and beat their breasts and lament in anguish, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory [in brilliancy and splendour].

31 And He will send out His angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather His elect (His chosen

ones) from the four winds, [even] from one end of the universe to the other.

[BibleGateway - Keyword Search: Repent](#)



PSALM 51 A PSALM OF REPENTANCE

51 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.

17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.

19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.



*Nathan confronts King David
"You are the man!" Nathan told David. "
2 Samuel 12*

Visit us at: www.weeklychristianfocus.org



If you enjoyed this week's edition and are not a premium subscriber or if you just wish to help these messages go further, use this link below to donate by either PayPal or debit/credit card Thank you. God bless you.



Get 6 editions of the Weekly Christian Focus completely free, by visiting our web site. You can also become a Premium member. See details on the site.