

PREPARING FOR WONDERS

Repentance that Actually Works

March 10, 2024 - Week Two

>> We have a sin focused view of repentance rather than a God focused view of repentance.

Hebrews 12:1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

>> Repentance is the pursuit of all the good that God has for you.

Matthew 4:12-17

When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,
along the road by the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles.

The people who live in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those living in the land of the shadow of death,
a light has dawned.

From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Romans 7:21-25a

I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love God's law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! **The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Romans 8:5-6

Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace.

Romans 12:2

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

>> What God is leading me to is better than my sin.

>> Train ourselves to always look at what God is leading us to, rather than focus on what he is asking us to walk away from.