

# THE BIBLE WORD SERIES

***A Brief Study of those Important Words found in the Bible that we need to understand, not just skip over.***

## REPENTANCE

*The Hebrew word for "repentance" is "to make a strong turn toward a new & positive course of action.*

*The Greek word for "repentance" is:* 1) **Hear & receive new knowledge & information**  
2) **Regret for your previous course**  
3) **Make a change in your course & action**

*We need to get past the bias that "repenting" is some old Biblical word used by Old Testament prophets and modern-day preachers is to make us afraid of hell - and that it is not relevant for our lives today. That is a large package of "baloney".*

### 1. Why do people need to "repent" (make a deliberate change in their direction)?

*Matthew 3:1 -2 -In those days John the Baptizer came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"*

a. "Because the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Why do we need to repent?)

- (1). Because the answer for their lives is available? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
(2). Because Jesus is soon to appear to them? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

*Matthew 3:7 - Brood of snakes! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come since your lives do not show any kind of repentance.*

b. "Warned you to flee from the wrath to come" (Why do we need to repent?)

- (1). Because the future judgment of sin is coming? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
(2). Because deep down the warning scares them? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
(3). Because they know they have not listened? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

*Matthew 5:4 - Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.*

c. "For they shall be comforted". (Why do we need to repent?)

- (1). Because something always seems wrong in my life? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
(2). Because repentance involves grief? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
(3). Because we really want someone to comfort us? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
(4). Because unresolved sin causes discouragement? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

*Matthew 9:12-13 - When Jesus heard the attacks about Him eating with tax collectors & sinners, He said, "Those who are well do not need a doctor, but the sick do. Go learn the meaning of what the prophet Hosea said years ago - I, GOD, DESIRE MERCY AND NOT SACRIFICE." Jesus continued, "For I did not come to call the righteous to repentance, but rather the sinners."*

d. "I (God) desire mercy and not (just) sacrifice". (Why do we need to repent?)

- (1). Because God wants us to be religious? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

- (2). Because our religious life hides our real life? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
 (3). Because I am a sinner & cannot fix the problem? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No  
 (4). Because God does not give me what I deserve? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Keep in mind these two words in the Bible: Mercy & Grace

\*\* Mercy = God DOES NOT GIVE me what I deserve. (I need help)

\*\* Grace = God DOES GIVE me what I do not deserve. (I got the help)

2. **When** does a person need to repent (change their thinking & direction)?

a. When is the **First Time**? - Acts 16:31

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b. When are the **Other Times**? - For the rest of our lives

(1). 1 John 1:8-9 \_\_\_\_\_

(2). Psalm 51 \_\_\_\_\_

(3). Luke 15:11-32 \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember that "to repent" means "to turn a new direction". It means "to turn away from the sin all around me and the sin within me". Furthermore, it means to "turn to the Lord Jesus Christ."**

**FINALLY, LET'S LOOK AT PSALM 51. KING DAVID KNEW ABOUT REPENTING. HE WILL TELL US WHAT REPENTING FEELS LIKE.**

3. Match the verses in Psalm 51:1-13 with a fact about repenting (turning away) from sin.

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|----------------|--|--------------------|
| a. Psalm 51:1  | ___ I feel dirty & need to be clean.     | ("Wash")           |
| b. Psalm 51:2  | ___ I feel dirty & need to be clean.     | ("Purge")          |
| c. Psalm 51:3  | ___ I feel dirty & need to be clean.     | ("Create")         |
| d. Psalm 51:4  | ___ I am helpless & need mercy.          | ("Have mercy")     |
| e. Psalm 51:5  | ___ I know I was born a sinner.          | ("I was brought")  |
| f. Psalm 51:6  | ___ God, I have offended You.            | ("Against You")    |
| g. Psalm 51:7  | ___ God, I have offended You.            | ("Hide Your face") |
| h. Psalm 51:8  | ___ God, I have offended You.            | ("Do not cast")    |
| i. Psalm 51:9  | ___ I cannot get my sin out of my mind.  | ("Before me")      |
| j. Psalm 51:10 | ___ Nothing satisfies or makes me happy. | ("Hear joy")       |
| k. Psalm 51:11 | ___ Nothing satisfies or makes me happy. | ("Restore")        |
| l. Psalm 51:12 | ___ You want more for my life than this. | ("Desire truth")   |
| m. Psalm 51:13 | ___ You want more for my life than this. | ("I will teach")   |

**Here are some really cool things about the results of repenting:**

1. Luke 15:32 - We were lost and now we are found.
2. Luke 10:16 - We now stop rejecting God.
3. 2 Peter 3:9 - God has been waiting for us all along.
4. Luke 15:7 - There is celebration in heaven.