

## HOW TO START A REVOLUTION

It's Your Turn

Acts 3:12-26

Peter preaches his sermon to try to get the people to turn and trust in Jesus.

Repentance is not identical with grief or regret over sin. It is the result of these emotions. To feel sorry, to feel grief or guilt or regret over a past sin is not the same as repenting. Repentance is the change of attitude or behavior that results from the feeling of remorse over the sin. Godly regret is the first step of repentance. And repentance follows and completes the change of heart.

So, the test of godly regret is repentance. The test of whether our grief is of God or of the world is whether it produces change. Repentance is turning away from and renouncing one way and going in another.

Adapted from Timothy Keller

FOUR OF THE PROMPTERS GOD OFFERS TO MOVE US TO REPENT:

- 1.Revelation of God's Truth – Matthew 11:21-24; John 20:30-31
- 2.Sorrow Over Sin – 2 Corinthians 7:9-11
- 3.God's Goodness and Kindness – Romans 2:4
- 4.Fear of Final Judgement – Acts 17:30-31

I GENUINELY REPENT WHEN I . . .

- Name It – call it what it is . . . sin
- Own It – take responsibility for it . . . no excuses
- Grieve It – be saddened by what was done
- Confess It - admit it to those affected . . . including God

- Quit it – desire and direct my life to do what is right
- Mend It – repair the damage . . . as I am able

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RELIGIOUS REPENTANCE AND GOSPEL REPENTANCE

AREA AFFECTED	RELIGIOUS REPENTANCE	GOSPEL REPENTANCE
	"worldly sorrow" – 2 Corinthians 7:10	"godly sorrow" – 2 Corinthians 7:10
SORROW OVER MY SIN	I am sorry for how my sin affects me.	I am sorry for how my sin displeases and dishonors God.
AFFECTS OF MY SIN	I do not hate the sin for itself but only as it affects me.	I hate the sin for what it is, how it affects me and others, and the cost God had to pay to rescue me from its power over me.
BASIS FOR MY REPENTANCE	Religious repentance is fear based. It is driven by my fear of the consequences to me of my sin.	Gospel repentance is love based. It is driven by my relationship with God.
CONSEQUENCES	Fear-based repentance makes me hate myself.	Joy-based repentance makes me hate the sin.
GOAL FOR REPENTANCE	I repent to keep God happy so he will	I repent to tap into the joy of my union

	continue to bless me and answer my prayers.	with Christ to weaken my impulse to do anything contrary to God's heart.
APPROACH TO FORGIVENESS	I try to earn my forgiveness through my repentance.	I receive forgiveness earned by Jesus. It would be unjust for God to ever deny me forgiveness because Jesus earned my acceptance through his life and death for me.
PLACE OF HOPE IN REPENTANCE	When my hope is in my moral goodness it is difficult for me to repent. It infers that I am far from God.	Because my hope is in Jesus' righteousness I do not find it traumatic to admit my weaknesses and failures.
HOW SECURITY DRIVES MY REPENTANCE	My relational security is found in my personal goodness so repentance is an enemy that tells me I am not good enough. Consequently, I avoid repentance.	My relational security with God is found in Jesus so repentance is a posture I hold because it brings joy in my walk with God.

MY PERSPECTIVE ON REPENTANCE	There is bitterness in repentance because I find myself either constantly denying my sins and flaws and so I push aside the need to repent or I am constantly being reminded of how I fail to be good enough.	There is a sweetness in repentance because the more I see my flaws and sins the more precious and electrifying and amazing is the grace of God.
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