GETTING THE GOSPEL RIGHT "Repent and Turn to God"

Scripture Reading: ACTS 26:19-23

- **SLIDES 1-6**. Bible Jeopardy!
- J SLIDES 7-8. Read today's Scripture text.
- **SLIDE 9**. This is week #8 and our final week in our sermon series "GETTING THE GOSPEL RIGHT." And I have titled today's message "Repent and Turn to God" (26:20).
- SLIDE 10. For a final time, let's review our 6 non-negotiable gospel truths we have made so far. Read and summarize.
- But just knowing and believing these truths superficially and/or just spouting these words from our mouths doesn't save anyone. Remember, the demons believe and shudder. Believing must go to the point of confessing.
- SLIDE 11. It's what I call the Christian response to the gospel. Read.
- There is one more Biblical response every true Christian will make above and beyond the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- SLIDE 12. In v20 of today's text, Paul is telling King Agrippa that men everywhere should repent and turn to God. What does it mean to repent? That's what we will cover today.
- The word "repent" or some form of that word is used 53 times in the NT. It must be important. What is repentance?
- SLIDE 13. Define "repent." Last week we talked about the demons believing. I assure you, the demons will never feel regret for their actions or change their minds or turn from their sin and dedicate themselves to the amendment of their lives. So, what is the Christian response?

- SLIDE 14. To repent means we change our MINDS about how we view our sins. What we once loved to do, we now hate to do. It does not mean we become sinless. It does mean there is a strong desire and a hunger to turn away and not do those "old self" things anymore. Remember, we are new creations in Christ.
- SLIDE 15. Christian response to the gospel. Repentance. You cannot be saved without your desire to do it, and you are not saved without a lifestyle that models it. Repeat.
- SLIDE 16. There are some who teach that a person who believes and accepts the gospel can now live any way they want. This practice is called antinomianism and it's not Biblical. Previous sermons in GAL on 10/11/2020 and 11/22/2020.
- **SLIDE 17**. 1 JOHN 2:3-6. Proof of being in Christ.
- Let's look at both OT and NT Scriptures to establish the fact that repentance is a necessary response for the true Christian. And I'm going to let the Scriptures speak for themselves.
- **SLIDE 18**. EZEKIEL 18:30-32.
- **SLIDE 19**. JTB comes on the scene. MATT 3:1-2. JTB was the one to prepare the way for the Lord. He was the one to start them thinking about a heart condition and not an outward works condition that 1st century Judaism was all caught up in.
- **SLIDE 20**. MARK 1:14-15. Jesus says that both believing in the gospel and repenting is necessary for salvation.
- SLIDE 21. LUKE 13:1-5. In other words, don't worry about them. Worry about you!
- SLIDE 22. In JOHN 8 Jesus meets a woman accused of adultery. The people who were going to stone her depart. Jesus is left alone with this woman. JOHN 8:10-11.
- **SLIDE 23**. ACTS 3:19.

- **SLIDE 24**. Book of REVELATION.
- SLIDE 25. SHOW! I just read 7 different Scripture texts dealing with repentance. How much clearer must Scripture be to inform us that we need to repent and turn away from our sins for salvation? Repentance will be a Christian response to the gospel. We don't become sinless, but we sin less.
- So you repent, do you? Your actions will prove that. Your actions are the proof of your repentance and your repentance is the proof of your salvation (not a way to earn it). You're saved? Good. Show me.
- SLIDE 26. JAMES 2:18. Jesus says by their fruit you will know them. Jesus says a good tree cannot bear bad fruit and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit.
- J I want to conclude this series by saying these three things.
- SLIDE 27. 1) A gospel that does not include the <u>LORDSHIP</u> of Jesus Christ in our lives and the <u>REPENTANCE</u> of our sins in our lives is a false gospel.
- SLIDE 28. There are many pastors, preachers, churches, and denominations who will never preach these Biblical truths. These preachers and churches are blind guides. (MATT 15:14)
- SLIDE 29. 2) Are you questioning your salvation? 2COR 13:5.
 Test yourself. You now know the conditions for salvation.
- SLIDE 30. 3) PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13. What does it mean to work out our salvation? It means we continually pursue obedience in our journey of becoming more Christ-like. And with fear and trembling means we have a healthy fear of offending God and our respect for Him.
- And do we feel God the Holy Spirit working in us? No, this does not mean we have to prophesy, or speak in tongues, or perform many miracles, or cast out demons in the name of Jesus. Many do that.

- It means we feel His presence and influence and guidance in our lives. So, we test ourselves and we work out our salvation.
- Mike, I think you have been very narrow and very critical and very judgmental in this entire series about who makes it to heaven and who doesn't make it to heaven. You almost make it sound too difficult to be saved.
- SLIDE 31. Review. Go ahead. Give it a try. Do you really want to take that risk? Jesus says only a few make it. I'm going to go with that. So, if anyone has a problem with these gospel truths, then your problem is not with me. Your problem is with the Word of God. I'm just the messenger telling you what this Book says.
- The gospel. It is the power unto salvation for those who by faith believe. Let's get the gospel right.

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