

## REPENTANCE

*“And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem”;* Luke - 24:47

Jesus commissioned all believers to preach this message to all souls seeking salvation. Although faith in Jesus alone is necessary for salvation (Acts 16:31), repentance is inseparably linked to it. It is hoped that the following questions and Bible references will encourage you, dear reader, to prayerfully study this important command from God.

**1. Is salvation open to all people?**

**Ezekiel 33:11**- As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live

**1 Timothy 2:3-4** - For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

**2. Must a person repent?**

**Mark 6:12** - And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

**Matthew 4:17** - From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

**Luke 17:3** - Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.

**Revelation 2:5** - 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.

**Acts 17:30** - And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:

**2 Peter 3:9** - The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

**3. What is it to repent?**

**Acts 3:19** - Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

**Acts 26:20** - But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and *then* to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

**Acts 13:38** - Be it known unto you therefore, men *and* brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

**Luke 3:8** - Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, we have Abraham to

our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

**4. Is repentance connected to salvation?**

**2 Corinthians 7:10** - For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

**Acts 11:18** - When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

**5. How does confession come into play? Or does it?**

**Matthew 3:6** - And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

**Leviticus 16:21** - And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins...

**Leviticus 5:5** - And it shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these *things*, that he shall confess that he hath sinned in that *thing*

**6. Who do we confess our sins to?**

**Matthew 3:11** - I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire

**Leviticus 4:31** - And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat is taken away from off the sacrifice of peace offerings; and the priest shall burn *it* upon the altar for a sweet savour unto the LORD; and the priest shall make an atonement for him, and it shall be forgiven him

**Matthew 16:19** - And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

**2 Corinthians 5:18** - And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation

**2 Samuel 12:13** - And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

**7. Is confession and absolution enough?**

**Romans 1:17** - For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

**Romans 3:28** - Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

**Romans 5:1** - Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

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**Romans 9:32** - Wherefore? Because *they sought it* not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone;

**Romans 10:17** - So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Acts 2:38** - Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

**Acts 9:17** - And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even* Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

**Acts 10:43** - To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

**Acts 10:44** - While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

**1 John 1:9** - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness

**8. Does God forgive all who confess their sin?**

**Leviticus 1:2-3** - ... If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD... If his offering *be* a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD

**Leviticus 4:23-26** - Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering ... And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the goat, and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering ... And the priest shall take of the blood ... shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him.

**Leviticus 17:3-4** - What man soever *there be* of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth *it* out of the camp, And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, ... blood shall be imputed unto that man...

**Hebrews 11:6** - But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**Therefore:**

1. Repentance unto salvation is to be awakened to your sins (sorrow), to believe that God will forgive sins (awakening faith), to acknowledge your sins to a servant of God (open confession), to hear the word of reconciliation proclaimed (absolution), and to believe that God has thus forgiven your sins (living faith).
2. Repentance is not a work that earns salvation but repentance unto salvation results in good works (Gal 5:19-23).
3. No person can repent unless God allows repentance.
4. This is not a work of man, though man is involved; it is a work sanctioned by God in man.

*God's Peace,*

*Charles Korhonen*

<b><u>March Speakers</u></b>		
Mar. 7	Charles Korhonen	11:00 a.m. Holy Communion
Mar. 14	Mark Sunnarborg	11:00 a.m.
Mar. 21	Ken Storm	11:00 a.m.
Mar. 28 Palm Sunday	Nathan Ruonavaara	11:00 a.m. Potluck Dinner

**Church Schedule**

Sunday School/Adult Bible Study....10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

Church Cleaning.....Mackrain Team

**TAPIOLA APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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