

Know What You Believe

The Soul That Sinneth - Repentance

Ezekiel 18.20-23

*Ezekiel 18:20–23 - **The soul that sinneth, it shall die.** The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.²¹ **But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.**²² All his transgressions that he hath committed, they shall not be mentioned unto him: in his righteousness that he hath done he shall live.²³ **Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?***

A. The Cost Of Sin

1. We are all sinners

Romans 3:23 - For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

2. There is a price tag on sin

*Romans 6:23 - **For the wages of sin is death; . . .***

Rev 20.11

3. The death sin causes

- **For the unsaved,** lost souls

***Revelation 20:11–15** - And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

Rev 21.8

***Revelation 21:8** - But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*

Our Lord Said,

Heb 12.5

***Mark 9:44** - Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.*

- **For the redeemed** – born again Christians

Hebrews 12:5–11 - And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, **My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:** ⁶For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. ⁷**If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?** ⁸But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, **then are ye bastards, and not sons.** ⁹Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? ¹⁰For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; **but he for our profit,** that we might be partakers of his holiness. ¹¹Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: **nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.**

2 Cor 5.10

The Bema of Christ

2 Corinthians 5:10–11 - **For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.** ¹¹**Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.**

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A. The Cost of Sin

B. A Confession of Sin (vs 21) - Repentance

Matt 4.17

Ezekiel 18:21 - But if the wicked will **turn from all his sins** that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, **and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die.**

1. Profession or Confession

To Profess something is to say something without believing it

To Confess something is to say something you fully believe.

Illustration – A Science Test

Matthew 7:20–24 - Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. ²¹Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. ²²Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? ²³**And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you:** depart from me, ye that work iniquity. ²⁴Therefore whosoever **heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them,** I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

2. Our Lord Preached Repentance

- John the Baptist

Matthew 3:1–2 - In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, ²And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

- Our Lord Jesus Christ

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

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- The New Testament

*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.*

3. What is Repentance?

*Ezekiel 18:21 - But if the wicked will **turn from all his sins** that he hath committed, **and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right**, he shall surely live, he shall not die.*

Eph 2.8

Repentance is a turning.

- Repentance is to turn away from your sin and to turn toward God.
- Repentance is to turn from your own way to God's way.
- Repentance is to turn from rebellion to surrender

Salvation by Faith Through Grace,

Ephesians 2:8–9 - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Two acts of repentance,

- **A Repentance unto salvation** – We repent of our rebellion toward God and turn to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ – We get saved.
- **A Repentance unto Surrender** – We through the renewing of our minds turn away from our worldly ways and turn to the revealing Word of God to learn to live as God would have us to live.

C. The Concern Of God (vs 23) – The Heart of God. The Will of God.

Ezekiel 18:23 - Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: and not that he should return from his ways, and live?

1. The Love Of God (John 3.16; Rom 5.8)

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

2 Pet 3.9

Romans 5:8 - But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

2. The Gift of God – Salvation through the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

3. The Heart and Will of God

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.

Grace Baptist Church, Jan 22, 2023

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