

Up From Slavery

A man / A people / A plan

GENUINE REPENTANCE?

Exodus 10:16-17 & Psalm 51

THE BIG QUESTIONS

- Is the consideration of repentance a relevant question for NT believers?
- What are the characteristics of genuine repentance?

1. IT IS BASED ON KNOWLEDGE

A. The knowledge of God and his revealed character

Psalm 51

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
blot out my transgressions.
- ² Wash away all my iniquity
and cleanse me from my sin.

1. IT IS BASED ON KNOWLEDGE

A. The knowledge of God and his revealed character

B. Self-knowledge

3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is always before me.

4 Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you are proved right when you speak
and justified when you judge.

5 Surely I was sinful at birth,
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

6 Surely you desire truth in the inner parts;
you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

1. IT IS BASED ON KNOWLEDGE

- A. The knowledge of God and his revealed character
- B. Self-knowledge
- C. Knowledge of our need

7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

8 Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

9 Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquity.

10 Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

2. IT HAS A PROPER GOAL

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will turn back to you.

A. Relief

B. Restoration

4. IT HAS A PROPER EFFECT

¹⁴ Save me from bloodguilt, O God,
the God who saves me,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

¹⁷ The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not
despise.

4. IT HAS A PROPER EFFECT

A. Regression

B. Reform

What does repentance require

A change of mind

What & how we think

A change of heart

What we feel

A change of will

How we act

A PROPER MOTIVATION

¹⁸ In your good pleasure make Zion prosper;
build up the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then there will be righteous sacrifices,
whole burnt offerings to delight you;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

A. Egocentric

B. Theocentric

To Go . . .

- How do you deal with spiritual failure?
- What needs to happen for the power of God to be displayed instead of your weakness?
- Who or what exerts the greatest influence in your life?