

Sunday Morning, January 12, 2020
Luke 3:1–20
The Baptism of John

I. Understanding the Setting of John

- A. John's Historical Setting Lk. 3:1–2

- B. John's Biblical Setting
 - 1. John's Ministry Looks Back to Isaiah Lk. 3:4–6; Isa. 40:3; Lk. 1:15–17

 - 2. John's Ministry Looks Forward to Christ Lk. 3:15–18
 - a. John's Ministry Is In the Old Testament Lk. 16:16; Matt. 11:11

 - b. John's Old Testament Baptism Was in Addition to Circumcision Lk. 3:8

 - c. So John's Baptism was not Christian Baptism

II. Understanding the Message of John

- A. Repentance Is Necessary for Forgiveness Lk. 3:3; Mk. 1:15; Lk. 3:9; Matt 3:10-12
 - 1. Then and Now, Repentance Is Vital

 - 2. Then and Now, Repentance Requires Humility

- B. Repentance Is Necessary for Escaping Judgment Lk. 3:7–9; Matt. 24:21; Jn. 1:11–13

- C. Repentance Requires Evidence To Be Genuine Lk. 3:8–14
 - 1. What is Genuine Repentance?
 - a. Genuine Repentance Is with the Mind 1 Jn. 1:9

 - b. Genuine Repentance Is with the Heart 2 Cor. 7:10; Rom. 6:20–21

 - c. Genuine Repentance Is with the Will Lk. 3:9; Isa. 55:7; 1 Pet. 2:25; 2 Cor. 6:17

 - 2. So, What is Genuine Evidence of Genuine Repentance? Lk. 3:8, 10
 - a. Genuine Repentance Is Specific

 - b. Genuine Repentance Is to Change

QUOTES

“Though the Bible does not teach that obedience is a condition of God’s pardon, it cautions against thinking that God will forgive where there is no real change of heart. God is not waiting for us to fix our lives before He forgives us, for then none would be forgiven; but He does not promise forgiveness where repentance is not sincere. While we should not delay repentance until we have corrected our sin, we should also not think that God will accept repentance from a heart still in rebellion against Him. If repentance is only a tool to manipulate God into averting the consequences of our wrongdoing, without any real intention of changing our ways, then we should remember that God will not hear those who cherish sin in their heart.”
Bryan Chapell (Holiness by Grace)

“It were an easy thing to be a Christian, if religion stood only in a few outward works and duties, but to take the soul to task, and to deal roundly with our own hearts, and to let conscience have its full work, and to bring the soul into spiritual subjection unto God, this is not so easy a matter, because the soul out of self-love is loath to enter into itself, lest it should have other thoughts of itself than it would have.”
Richard Sibbes

"He that can repent without sorrowing, suspect his repentance."
Thomas Watson

"Unless the sinner be dissatisfied with himself, detest his manner of life, and be thoroughly grieved from an apprehension of sin, he will never take himself to the Lord . . . no one can return to the right way, but the man who hates his sin."
John Calvin

“We are never more precious in God's eyes than when we are lepers in our own.”
Thomas Watson

“Life-giving sorrow infuses you with zeal to restore every single relationship that has been broken. Your sorrow leads you either deeper inside yourself or toward God and others.”
Heath Lambert

“Doing what is right and just doesn’t always make life more comfortable for you. An immediate and critical test for whether your sorrow is godly or worldly is whether you are willing to accept the consequences of your sin.”
Heath Lambert

"Repentance is not something God demands from you before He will take you back and which He could let you off if He chose; it is simply a description of what going back is like."
C S Lewis

"Without restitution, no remission."
Augustine

“Where there is no observable difference in conduct, there can be no confidence that repentance has taken place.”
John MacArthur

“The repentance that Christ requires of his people consists in a settled refusal to set any limits to the claims which he may make on their lives.”
J I Packer

“When a person caught in sin is walking through the process of repentance, they will want to have other trusted Christian friends help them in the process. They will see their need for guidance and input for their decisions. The repentant person seeks advice and accountability and then, here’s the kicker, they submit themselves to it. They readily do this because they know their heart’s propensity to self-deceive (Prov. 12:15).”
Chris O’Donnell

“For every look you take at yourself, take ten at Jesus Christ.”
Robert M. M’Cheyne

“The prodigal son was resolved to come, yet he was half afraid. But we read that his father ran. Slow are the steps of repentance, but swift are the feet of forgiveness. God can run where we can scarcely limp, and if we are limping toward him, he will run toward us. Though the father was out of breath, he was not out of love.”
Charles Spurgeon

“When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, ‘Repent,’ he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.”
First of Martin Luther’s 95 Theses