

Genuine Repentance: Turn Back to God by Submitting to Jesus

Leviticus 26:40–46

May 11, 2014

Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Introduction

A. Children's Sermon: Which Sin?

1. Stealing bread...?

"Excessively harsh punishments are immoral. For example if a man stole a loaf of bread would it be moral to put him in jail for life? The sins that one may commit in his or her life are not bad enough for eternal damnation."¹

2. Turning from rebellion to submission

Key Idea

*Repentance unto life is gift from God, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his rebellion, and an awareness of God's mercy in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it to God, with every effort being made to pursue a new wholehearted obedience.*²

B. Abhorring God's Authority

Leviticus 26:14–26

¹⁴ "But if you will not listen to me and *will not do all these commandments*,¹⁵ if you spurn my statutes, and *if your soul abhors my rules*, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant...

C. Curses

Leviticus 26:27–33

²⁷ "But if in spite of this you will not listen to me, but walk contrary to me,²⁸ then *I will walk contrary to you in fury*, and I myself will discipline you sevenfold for your sins.²⁹ You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters.³⁰ And I will destroy your high places and cut down your incense altars and cast your dead bodies upon the dead bodies of your idols, and *my soul will abhor you*.³¹ And I will lay your cities waste and will

¹ www.monergism.com/blog/it-moral-punish-everyone-sin-committed-adam-and-eve

² Derived from the Westminster shorter Catechism Answer # 87

make your sanctuaries desolate, and I will not smell your pleasing aromas. ³² And *I myself will devastate the land*, so that your enemies who settle in it shall be appalled at it. ³³ And I will scatter you among the nations...

II. Genuine Repentance

A. Confession not Blame-Shifting

Leviticus 26:40–41a

⁴⁰ “But if they *confess their iniquity and the iniquity of their fathers* in their treachery that they committed against me, and also in walking contrary to me, ⁴¹ *so that I walked contrary to them* and brought them into the land of their enemies—

1. Daniel

Daniel 9:5–6

...⁵ *we have sinned* and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. ⁶ We have not listened to your servants the prophets...

2. Jesus (Baptism, Cross)

Matthew 3:6

⁶ and they were **baptized** by him in the river Jordan, *confessing their sins*.

B. Humility & Making Amends (Repent & Believe)

Leviticus 26:41b–43

—if then their **uncircumcised heart** is **humbled** and they make amends for their iniquity... ⁴³ But the land shall be abandoned by them and enjoy its Sabbaths while it lies desolate without them, and they shall make amends for their iniquity, because they spurned my rules and their soul abhorred my statutes.

1. Humility (A God Reliance)

Deuteronomy 30:6

⁶ And the Lord your **God will circumcise your heart** (Cf. Colossians 2:11) and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

2. Making Amends (Zacchaeus - Luke 19:8–9)

Matthew 3:8

⁸ Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.

Romans 11:22 (The “olive tree” of Israel)

²² *Note then the kindness and the severity of God:* severity toward those who have fallen, but God’s kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off.

C. The Faithful Mercy of God

Leviticus 26:44–45

⁴² then *I will remember my covenant* with **Jacob**, and *I will remember my covenant* with **Isaac** and *my covenant* with **Abraham**, and **I will remember the land**. ... [land ... enjoy Sabbaths...]

[...because they spurned my rules and their soul abhorred my statutes.] ⁴⁴ Yet for all that, when they are in the land of their enemies, *I will not spurn them, neither will I abhor them* so as to destroy them utterly and *break my covenant with them, for I am the Lord their God*. ⁴⁵ But *I will for their sake remember the covenant with their forefathers*, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations, that I might be their God: I am the Lord.”

III. Application

A. From Self-Reliance to God-Reliance

Titus 3:4–7

⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ *he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy*, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

B. From Pride to Humble Service

Titus 3:1–3

¹ Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. ³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

C. From Self-Protection to Long-Suffering

Luke 17:3–4

³ Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, **rebuke him**, and if he repents, **forgive him**, ⁴ and *if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him.*"

D. Toward Perfection

Philippians 3:12–15

¹² ***Not that I have already obtained this*** or am already perfect, but ***I press on to make it my own***, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Let those of us who are mature think this way...

Key Idea

May God grant you the ability to see both your rebellion and God's goodness, so that you would turn back to the living God.