

2 Chronicles 29:15-19

First RPC Durham

Westminster Shorter Catechism 87, What is repentance unto life? Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

I. Heeding the Word of God.**A.** We must repent in response to the Word of God

- 1) Exposition of the Text (Ex 19:22)
- 2) Repentance is a grace of God applied by the Holy Spirit.
- 3) Binding the conscience to false sources lead to false repentance (Psa 25:12)
- 4) Repentance has a true sense of his sin and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ (1 Jn 3:4; 1 Pt 1:3-5).

B. Repentance is to be planned accordingly (Acts 16:14; Lk 14:31)**C.** Uses from the Text

- 1) All are called to repentance (Acts 17:30)
- 2) We are reminded of the importance of cultivating to not only read the Bible, but how to hear the Word of God preached.

II. Putting away Sin.**A.** We are to repent (turn away) from particular sins.

- 1) Exposition of the Text (2 Kgs 16; Phil 3:7-11)
- 2) We are to turn from what God calls sins, not what man calls sins (Mk 7:5, 9; Isa 8:20)
- 3) Repentance is to be commensurate with the particular sin

B. Understanding the Doctrine of Repentance (Thomas Watson, *The Doctrine of Repentance*)

- 1) Sight for sin
- 2) Sorrow for sin (Zechariah 12:10)
- 3) Confession of sin (1 Jn 1:9-10)
- 4) Shame for sin (Lk 15:21).
- 5) Hatred for sin
- 6) Turning from sin — Watson, Which consists of: (a) Turning

from sin with the heart; (b) Turning from all sin; (c) Turning from sin upon a spiritual ground; (d) Turning unto God; (e) Turning from sin which will not return;

C. Never once does true repentance seek to justify yourself

- 1) We do not seek to excuse our sin.
- 2) We are to call sin what it is: sin.

D. Delighting in the propitiation of Christ.

- 1) Justification (Heidelberg Catechism 60)
- 2) Sanctification (Heidelberg Catechism 86)

E. Uses from the Text

- 1) Self-Examination. What are ways you need to put off sin?
- 2) Self-Evaluation: Do you find yourself repenting of sin?

III. Putting on Righteousness.**A.** Exposition of the Text (Heidelberg Catechism 90-91)**B.** Commandments have both sins forbidden and duties required (Eph 4:28)**C.** We are to pursue purity in the Lord (Psa 19:14)

- 1) Purity in thought
- 2) Purity in word
- 3) Purity in deed

D. The goal of sanctification is service to God

- 1) Sin hinders our (a) glorifying and (b) enjoying God (Song of Songs 5:6).
- 2) One of the benefits of sanctification is becoming even more fit for service (1 Cor 9:24-27)

E. Rejoice at seeing the fruit of repentance:

- 1) In the lives of others (2 Tim 4:11b; 2 Jn 4)
- 2) In our lives, rejoicing to the Lord (Lk 19:8-10)
- 3) In our lives, rejoicing with others.
- 4) A word of comfort to those struggling with seeing their sin, and lack of sanctification (2 Cor 7:10; Rom 8:29; Phil 1:6)

F. Consider the great blessing of repentance (Psa 85:8-9, 11-12)**G.** Delighting in the righteousness of Christ, imputed and imparted.

- 1) For the imputed active obedience of Christ
- 2) For the righteousness of Christ effectively at work in us