

EXCEPT YE REPENT

(Luke 13:1-5)

I. What repentance is not.

- a. It is not conviction.
 - i. To convict someone means to impress him or her with guilt.
 - ii. When Peter preached that Jesus was the Christ and told the people present on the Day of Pentecost that they had killed him, some were pricked in their hearts.
 - iii. Some of them were impressed with their guilt after being convinced that Jesus was the Christ.
 - iv. It is obvious that though convicted of their guilt they still had not repented because when they asked what to do, they were told to repent.
 - v. There is no telling how many times people have heard the gospel message and been convicted of their need to make things right with God.
 - vi. You can see their knuckles white gripping the pew in front of them while they hold it to keep themselves from responding.
 - vii. They were convicted but they still have not repented.
- b. It is not being afraid.
 - i. When Paul preached to Felix we read...(Acts 24:24-25).
 - ii. We never read that Felix had that more convenient season.
 - iii. Just because he trembled or just because someone sheds tears thinking of their standing before God does not mean repentance has taken place.
- c. Repentance is not solely being sorry.
 - i. 2 Corinthians 7:10.
 - ii. There is a difference between sorrow of the world and sorrow that leads one to repent.
 - iii. Sorrow of the world is sorry that you got caught or sorry that you lost out on what you wanted.
 - iv. Godly sorrow is the realization of David, when David said, "Against thee and thee only have I sinned".
 - v. He realized that his sin hurt God and he couldn't live with that thought.
 - vi. It is a realization that what was done was done against God and helped to hang Jesus on the cross.
 - vii. The prisons are full of people who are sorry but many still have not repented.
- d. Repentance is not a reformation of life.
 - i. John preached a message of repentance.
 - ii. He told those who would listen to change their lives as a result of their repentance not to just change their lives (Matthew 3:7-8).

II. What repentance is.

- a. Luke 15:11-24.
- b. The parable of the prodigal son clearly depicts for us what repentance is.
 - i. The son decides he wants what he felt was his so he could go live like he wanted to live.
 - ii. In essence, he wanted his father dead because only after death is one to receive an inheritance.
 - iii. He went out and lived it up, according to his brother at least, spending some on harlots.
 - iv. When things finally got so bad he was willing to eat with the pigs, he had an epiphany.
 - v. His father's servants were better off than he was.
 - vi. He knew he had sinned against his father and in the way that he had lived.
 - vii. He came to his right mind, as the KJV says, "and when he came to himself".
 - viii. This shows us that one is not in his or her right mind when in sin.
 - ix. Who would want to be separated from God that is in his right mind?
- c. Here is a boy who changed his life.
 - i. He asked for forgiveness and showed his father his desire to live right.
 - ii. Repentance is a change of life brought about by a change of heart.
 - iii. This young man illustrates that for us in a great way.
- d. Another example is found in a parable of Jesus (Matthew 21:28-29).
- e. A tremendous example of repentance is Saul of Tarsus.
 - i. He was so against Christianity that he would later tell Timothy that he was the chief of sinners.
 - ii. However, when confronted with the truthfulness of the claims of Christianity, his life changed.
 - iii. He went from a blasphemer to a devout follower.
 - iv. He truly repented of his sins and changed his life.

Not an original outline but do not know source.