

"I cannot kneel down together with, and look up with people, one of whom is looking at Confucius and another at Mohammed and another at the Buddha, and another at some philosopher. I cannot! There is only One to look at; it is this blessed Son of God... What is the value of talking about having things in common and claiming that we are all one, if there is any question about Him, as to whether He ...is Son of God or only man? If there is any doubt about it there is no unity, there is no fellowship. We must confess together that there is only one Saviour, one only Lord Jesus Christ, God and Man, two natures in one person, born of the Virgin Mary, crucified under Pontius Pilate, risen again. There must be no question about Him! There is no unity unless we are agreed about Him! The same Saviour, the same Person!"
Martyyn LLoyd-Jones (Ephesians - God's Way Of Reconciliation)

GADSBY'S CATECHISM – William Gadsby about 1800

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Question LIII. Which is the third commandment?

Answer. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.

Ex. 20.7; Dent 5.11.

Question LIV. Which is the fourth commandment?

Answer. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor the stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the seventh day and hallowed it.

Ex. 20.8-11; Deut 5.12-15.

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Sunday Evening 6:00 PM

Prayer and Bible Study Wednesday Evening 6:30 PM

WCWV 92.9 FM – 8:00 AM Sunday Morning

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST REPORT

THE RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

“The Pillar and ground of the Truth” -- 1 Timothy 3:15

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GODLY SORROW

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. 2 Corinthians 7:10

When men discover they can't live up to the required standards to attain some desired goal they tend to lower the standards. The complaint has often come forth concerning educators who cannot bring enough students to a passing grade that they “dumb down” the curriculum. Rather than hold to a standard of excellence they simply make it easier. While the record shows a good grade, substance is missing. The result is that entrance exams reveal deficiencies and employers complain that those deemed qualified for jobs are in fact lacking.

The practice above is to be condemned as deceptive and misleading to both students and those who have expectations for them. But, there is something far worse with which to be concerned. We are witnessing the “dumbing down” of religion and faith. The mandate from the Word of God is to preach the Word and to be faithful in preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God as did our Lord. It began with “repent ye and believe the Gospel.” So what do we do when men do not believe the message and do not respond in a desirable way? The man of God will continue to preach. Those bent on visible results will adopt new methods. They will define an easier way to produce results. They will appeal to certain characteristics in men that can be manipulated and convinced. But, of course, the standards must be dropped. Terms that cannot be ignored must be redefined. Salesmanship is the order of the day. What is

being sold: The ability to feel good under the condemnation of the Scripture?

Many of the greatest “scams” of our day involve products that guarantee good health and long life; products that will guarantee the safety of our homes and our finances; and insurance that will cover all eventualities. Much of modern religion promises that we will feel good about ourselves; that we will be prosperous and healthy and that when we die we will go to heaven. A few simple steps is all that is required and the promise is that one is set for eternal life.

When the real requirement is presented it is quickly shouted down and pundits declare that it won't work. They are true pragmatists (those who act or believe in what will work or meet their objectives). Like the Pharisees of old they scream loudly at anything which threatens their control of those they evangelize. This text presents one such objection. There are many. Many endeavor to become technical in defense of their positions. It is good that we should examine language and be sure of the intent of the particular text. The definition of repentance certainly incorporates a change of mind with a view toward reformation. Thus, the argument is presented that a man may of his own free will have a change of mind and commit to a different way of life. Many do so. If salvation could be brought so easily then we should all train in salesmanship and win the world to

Christ. However, our text brings another factor to bear over which a man has no control.

Godly sorrow is declared to be that which “worketh repentance.” There are many forms of remorse that men experience. One may simply regret that he got caught. But, to place the adverb “Godly” before sorrow gives a special definition. It only follows that true repentance cannot be defined without consideration of “Godly sorrow.” This sorrow then has God as its source according to the divine will. That is, it is a requirement not to be side-stepped. Repentance is a gracious gift: *When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life. Acts 11:18.* We are reminded of the words of Paul who would head off pride and presumption: *Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? Romans 2:4.* With these things being so about repentance it only follows that “Godly sorrow” would be a work of grace in the heart of the believer.

As we noted above, a strict scholastic definition would indicate a change of mind. But, when we add “Godly sorrow” to the picture we would understand a change of heart. It is no far reach to note that man does not change his own heart. The Old Testament prophet wrote: *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? Jeremiah*

17:9. But, through another prophet we read that the Lord promised a “new heart.” By this we understand that such a heart would be of divine creation and would manifest its possessor as partaking of the divine nature. So it was that Arthur Pink wrote that “in order to have Godly sorrow one must have a Godly nature. This would indicate such a depth of sorrow to which depraved men could never attain. Such sorrow as this would mimic the cry of David that “against thee and thee only have I sinned...” Such sorrow takes us to look upon our Lord of Whom it was said that He was “a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.” Such a sorrow would cause the cry that came from the Apostle Paul: *O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? Romans 7:24.* Such sorrow would immediately register that hope rested in the mercy of God alone. It is realized by those coming to such sorrow that only the awakening power of the Holy Spirit could enable such a depth of need that would bring great rejoicing at forgiveness being given in Christ.

The path of true repentance leads to a life of total dependence upon and grateful acknowledgment that Jesus Christ is Lord. Consider its importance to Paul: *Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. Acts 20:21.* Have you truly repented or just changed your mind? *bhs*

Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly. Proverbs 16:22

Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it. – Christ is this “understanding” (Proverbs 8:14; 1 John 5:20). Whoever possesses Him finds in Him a “wellspring of life”, a well fed by a spring gushing forth the water of life. As God has given to us physical water to sustain physical life, so does Christ give spiritual water (i.e., His Holy Spirit, as in John 7:37-39) to sustain spiritual life (John 4:13f): “Jesus answered and said to her, ‘Whoever drinks of this water [i.e., physical water] will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him [i.e., the Holy Spirit] will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.’”

But the correction of fools is folly. – The best a fool can say is folly. All who resort to him for instruction will find nothing but a dry hole of death. No one was ever spiritually converted or received the water of life through the ministry of a man devoid of Christ or who preached another Jesus (Jeremiah 23:32). – Daniel E. Parks

The Way of Salvation

What must I do to be saved? Saved from what? What is it you wish to be saved from? Hell? That proves nothing. Nobody wants to go there. The issue between God and man is SIN. Do you wish to be saved from it?

What is sin? Sin is a species of rebellion against God. It is self-pleasing: it is the utter ignoring of God's claims: being completely indifferent whether my conduct pleases or displeases Him.

Before God saves a man He convicts him of his sinnership. By this I do not mean that he says with everybody else, "O yes we are all sinners, I know that." Rather do I mean that the Holy Spirit makes me feel in my heart that I have been a life-long rebel against God, and that my sins are so many, so great, so black, that I fear that I have transgressed beyond the reach of Divine mercy.

Have you ever had that experience? Have you seen yourself to be totally unfit for heaven? For the presence of a Holy God? Do you now perceive that there is no good thing in you, nothing good credited to your account, that all the way through you have loved the things God hates and hated the things God loves?

Has the realization of this broken your heart before God? Has it made you mourn that you have so despised His Sabbaths, neglected His Word, and given Him no real place at all in your thoughts, affections and life? If you have not yet seen and felt this personally, then at present there is no hope for you, for God says, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" — Luke 13:3. And if you die in your present condition you will be lost forever.

But if you have been brought to the place where sin is your greatest plague, where offending God is your greatest grief, and where your deepest desire is now to please and honor Him; then there is hope for you. "The Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost" — Luke 19:10. And He will save you providing you are ready and willing to throw down the weapons of your warfare against Him, bow to His Lordship, and surrender yourself to His control.

His blood can wash the foulest clean. His grace can support and uphold the weakest. His power can deliver the tried and tempted. "Behold now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" — II Corinthians 6:2. Yield yourself to Christ's claims. Give Him the throne of your heart. Turn over to Him the regulation of your life. Trust in His atoning death. Love Him with all your soul. Obey Him with all your might and He will conduct you to heaven. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" — Acts 16:31. A. W. Pink



What we need to restore power to the Christian testimony is not soft talk about brotherhood but an honest recognition that two human races occupy the earth simultaneously: a fallen race that sprang from the loins of Adam and a regenerate race that is born of the Spirit through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus. To accept this truth requires a tough-mindedness and a spiritual maturity that modern Christians simply do not possess. To face up to it hardly contributes to that "peace of mind" after which our religious weaklings bleat so plaintively. For myself, I long ago decided that I would rather know the truth than be happy in ignorance. If I cannot have both truth and happiness, give me truth. We'll have a long time to be happy in heaven. A. W. Tozer *The Dwelling Place of God*