

The background is a solid teal color with several thin, light blue lines crisscrossing diagonally across it. The lines vary in length and orientation, creating a dynamic, abstract pattern.

Studies in Joshua
“Lessons For New Believers”
Joshua 10:1-14

- The Gibeonites are *typical* of Gentile sinners surrendering themselves to Christ [Joshua is a type of Christ].
- When the Gibeonites defected from the other Canaanite nations and entered into a peace treaty with Israel, they were a spiritual type of Gentile sinners today, who are privileged to become partakers of the benefits of the peace which Christ has made with God Ephesians 2:11-19.

There is another important spiritual lesson in how the Gibeonites became partakers of the benefits of this peace

- **“What does God require from the sinner in order for him to become a personal partaker of the benefits of that legal ‘peace’ which Christ made with God?” **A.W. Pink****
- **Some would answer by saying, “ ... Nothing but faith - simply believing that Christ has fully atoned for our sins and relying upon the sufficiency of His sacrifice.”**

- “But” , says Pink, “... that is only half the answer, the second half, for it leaves out an essential requirement which must precede believing.”
- Then he goes on to quote, ...
“Repent ye, and believe the Gospel”
Mark 1:15

**‘Repentance’ itself is not some
‘legalistic work’ that we must do in
order to be saved!**

- Repentance is a part of the Holy Spirit’s work of regeneration and conversion which is present when every true Christian becomes saved.
- ‘Repenting’ and ‘believing’ are initiated by the Holy Spirit and it is the Holy Spirit Who empowers us to accomplish both!
- Repentance is the work of God in us!
I Cor. 4:7 & Phil. 1:6

The application of the idea of repentance to the Gibeonites

- Grk. “metanoeo.” - to ‘think again,’ carries the idea of changing one’s mind or purpose. [Vine’s Expository Dictionary of New testament Words says, “... involves both a turning from sin and a turning to God.”]

- The Gibeonites were formerly associated with the other Canaanite nations. But they had ‘second thoughts’ about that alliance and they ‘changed their mind and turned’ to Joshua and Israel. This is symbolic of the sinner’s repentance and conversion!

‘Repentance’: an indispensable part of Gospel preaching

- **Acts 20:21** - The Apostle Paul said: *“I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.”*
- **Matt. 21:32 KJV** *“... and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.”*

- **Luke 24:47** Referring to the Great Commission - “... and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, ...”
- **Acts 17:30** “... but now [i.e. in this Christian era] he commands all people everywhere to repent.”

Consider how important this lesson is for sound Gospel preaching today!

- True repentance always results in a clear break with sin and the past association with the world that is hostile toward God.
- “It is impossible, in the very nature of the case, that a soul could seek God’s pardon with any honesty while he continued to defy Him and persist in what He forbids.” - **A.W. Pink**

- Pink calls it, “... the false evangelism of our day, which blatantly announces that nothing is required from the sinner except faith in Christ. ... an impenitent heart cannot savingly believe, nor is there any forgiveness for those who are determined to continue in a course of carnality and worldliness.”

The Scripture says:

- “**Repent**, ... and **turn** to God, so that your sins may be wiped out ...”
Acts 3:19
- “We are bringing you good news, telling you to **turn from** these worthless things to the living God.”
Acts 14:15

- Paul said his ministry among the Gentiles was “to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive the forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified.” - **Acts 26:18**
- Paul knew the faith of the Thessalonians was real because they “... turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God ...”
1 Thess. 1:9.

Three important lessons for those who have decided to be on God's side [John Huffman's outline]

- We will face opposition **vv. 1-5**
- We will discover that God keeps His covenant **vv. 6-11**
- We have supernatural resources **vv. 12-14**