

**Scripture:** Exodus 20:1-17 & Acts 3  
**Singing:** 265:1-3 – 69:1-2 – 294:1-3 – 103:1-4 – 426:2-3

## REPENTANCE AND FAITH

- A. The 'call to repent/believe' is preached by Jesus through prophets & apostles  
*Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21)*
- B. To deepen Biblical understanding of repentance and faith is very needed
1. Are we as Christians known as 'repenters?'
  2. Are we as Christians known as 'rejoicers?'

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Lord's call to repent &amp; believe (1)</b> <b>I. What is to repent? II What is to believe?</b></p>
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I. What is to repent?

A. It is something Jesus commands us to do: Mark 1:14-15; Acts 17:30

B. It is something we do: Luke 15:18

C. Yet it is also an effect or fruit rather than a cause

1. Compare: Acts 13:48; 16:14; Eph. 2:10 (1:13)
2. Do not make wrong application of the truth of God as *working cause*
3. Let God's call to repent & your inability to repent lead you to Jesus
  - a. compare the situation of yourself with Luke 9:41
  - b. be encouraged by Peter's Gospel in Acts 5:30-31

C. It is something mostly mental though includes physical: 1 Thess 1:9

1. true repentance begins with a *change of mindset*
  - a. it is change *how you think about God* as you begin see His glory

b. seeing God's glory *immediately changes our view of sin and sinning*

2. True repentance includes emotions: *sin is felt at grievous & personal guilt!*

3. True repentance also includes our will: *we **now want** to change*

Finally: Hear the Lord's call: *Repent ye and return to Me, for would you why die?*

A. Do you taste Jesus' love for you in this command to *repent*?

1. He desires that you instantly turn away from all *your condemning sins*

2. Though He hates every sin in you, one sin affects Him & us most deeply

B. We have homework: *You are commanded to repent and to believe*

1. Think: *what sins then do I need to repent of?*

2. Remember: *God is ready to pardon*, ready to all that come unto Him.

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#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON REPENTANCE

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False repentance is like those who throw all goods overboard during a fierce storm and wish for them again in the calm.

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He who beats his heart but does not mend his ways, does not remove sin but hardens the heart. (Augustine)

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Any Christian that stops repenting has stopped growing.

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Even our repentance needs to be washed in Christ's blood. (Whitefield)

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Sin and hell are married unless repentance proclaims the divorce. (Spurgeon)