

Intro:

READ WLC Q&A 153.

Main Point of Text: Paul summarizes his long ministry to everyone in Ephesus as serious instruction on two most profitable things: repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ.

LC: “we may escape his wrath”! How? By “what God requireth of us”: faith/repentance.

Sermon Point: *Live by Repentance and Faith.*

Move 1: *Turn to God in godly sorrow over your sins with a sincere desire to change.*

LC: “repentance toward God”. Acts 20:21: remorse, 180 degree turn, “change of mind”:

- LC 75. SC 87: *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 endeavour after, new obedience.* Attitude adjustment.
- T. Watson: *Attrition* (humiliation and contrition) and *Transformation*: change throughout.
- Lk. 24:47; Mat 3:2; Mat. 4:17; Mark 6:12; Acts 2;37-38; 3:18; Rev. 3:19; Lk. 13:3, 5).

Move 2: *Truly trust in Jesus alone to save you from your sins.*

LC: “faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ”: 1) doctrine, 2) belief. WSC 86: *Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation, as he is offered to us in the gospel.*

Personal assent to Bible’s doctrine for self. Trust Christ as your Saving Lord. Not just any faith, but faith in Jesus Christ. LC 72: “*justifying faith*”. WCF “*Saving Faith*”. *Solus Christus*.

- Acts 16:30-31; Rom. 3:23-25; John 3:16 (Vss. 14-15 w/ Num. 21:1-9 to show).

Move 3: *Keep being converted through God’s appointed means of saving perseverance.*

LC: “the diligent use of the outward means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of his mediation.” WLC 154: “all his ordinances; especially the word, sacraments, and prayer.” (See WSC 88). In congregation. Acts 20:21: “solemnly testifying” [charging]: 18: in “all seasons”; 20: kept nothing back, taught privately and publicly (worship, visitations); 27: taught all the counsel of God; 31: warned all for three years: they showed up. Like Acts 2:37-47 (esp. vss. 42, 46). Lifestyle of conversion: Phil. 2:12.

Conclusion:

Mark. 1:14-15; Ps. 51:10-12, 17; Jn. 6:37.

Live by Repentance and Faith.