

A Call To Repentance **By Greg Rangel**

When you read throughout the Scriptures something becomes so apparent. And that is that God is calling His people to repent. All throughout the history of the nation of Israel God would call them to repentance. Moses wrote in Deuteronomy 30:15-19, “See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil; In that I command thee this day to love, the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes, and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it. But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them; I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, wither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:” (see also Ezekiel 14:6, 18:30).

Even though the Lord gave the children of Israel many warnings, they still did not listen to His Words. God warned them over and over again about the dangers of living against His will. Israel soon came to find out that disobedience had a hefty price behind it. Many of those Israelites perished because they chose to live according to their own sinful desires. They forgot about how good God had been to them. They perhaps thought that God would not judge them, and so therefore they lived a life in rebellion.

That same warning of repentance was preached throughout the New Testament. John the Baptist preached repentance. Matthew 3:1-2 says, “In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Jesus preached repentance as well. Mark 1:14-15 says, “Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.”

That is the same gospel message that needs to be preached today. People need to repent and believe in the gospel. It is the same gospel message that the O.T. Prophets preached, the same gospel that John the Baptist preached, the same that Jesus preached, the same that Paul and the Apostles preached (Acts 17:30), and it must be the same that we preach today. People need to repent and believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, “...except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:5).

In the first quoted passage on this article Moses wrote, “...I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:” There is a day in which death will be knocking on our door. We will all die one day. This is an event that we will not be late for. It is for that reason that we must make sure that we are in right standing with God. We must repent of our sins and believe in the gospel of Jesus Christ. Ignoring the many opportunities that gives man today is not wise. Failing to believe in the

only way that man can be saved is like ignoring the only lifesaver that is tossed to you if you are drowning. Jesus is the only way.

Only you the reader know what type of life you are living. Perhaps you are living in adultery, or fornication. Or perhaps you are a thief, or a liar. Or perhaps liquor is controlling your life. Whatever you find yourself doing, you must repent. It is a choice that will change your eternal destiny. Repentance is confessing your sin to God and making a complete u-turn. It is no longer living in that sin. Whatever you have done God will forgive you. God loves you. It is for that reason that He sent His only Son Jesus to die on the cross for your sins and my sins. Receive His love today. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

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