

Why Is Daily Repentance Extremely Important?

Focus: Why Christians live in daily confession, forgiveness, and new life.

Key Verse: *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.”* — 1 John 1:9

Text: NAS 2020

Introduction: Dear friends: **Why is daily repentance extremely important?** Because it is **God’s work** – by the Spirit through the word – **to keep us:**

- **Being sorry** for our sins!
- **Turning** from our sins!
- **Trusting** in Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins!

1. **Why Do Many Reject Daily Repentance?** They say:

- a. I go to church sometimes – *so God will accept me!*
- b. I’m not that bad – *I live a decent life!*
- c. I’m an atheist – *so I know there is no eternity!*

2. **Why Do Many Think They Are Correct?**

- a. They are in the majority – *since most are deceived!*
- b. They are logical – *God will accept someone like me!*
- c. They are practical – *God won’t send anyone to hell!*

3. **What Should Make Us Aware of our Need?**

- a. The Bible is true – *it is God’s holy word!*
- b. We all owe a debt to God – *that we cannot pay!*
- c. Judgment day is set – *and fast-approaching!*

4. **What Is the Danger of Rejecting God's Word?** Whenever we reject, we harden our hearts! **Hebrews Chapter 3**
- Take care: **12-13** "Take care, that there will not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. ...so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin." // Sin deceives—telling us it's okay, when it's destroying us!
 - Don't shrink back: **14** For we have become partakers of Christ if we keep the beginning of our commitment firm until the end... // Are we shrinking or growing?
5. **Are We Storing Up Wrath?** **Romans 2:4-5** "...do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and restraint and patience [*God's goodness to all*], not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance? But because of your stubbornness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath..."
6. **Are We Moving Toward Dying or Living?** **Romans 8:13** "...if you are living in accord with the flesh, you are going to die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live." // What are we doing with our sins – living in them or putting them to death?
7. **What Should Terrify Every Unrepentant Person?** *Consider this powerful passage:* **Hebrews Chapter 10**
- What should we do? **23-25** "Let's hold firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering...
²⁴ ...encourage one another in love and good deeds,
²⁵ ...not [abandon] our own meeting together..."
 - What will happen to the willful sinners? **26-27** "For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth [*about sin and salvation*], there

no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment... // **Dr. Kretzmaznn:** "...he refers to a willful sin... that **people that have come to the faith do not hold fast the confession of hope without wavering, ...neglect the means of grace,** no longer attend church services, or... very irregularly, and neither apply nor receive brotherly admonition. **The denial of Christ is the sin, and the contempt of the means of grace is the road leading thereto.** People that become guilty of this sin do so purposely, with deliberate intent, and they go on sinning... And in their case, it holds true that the sacrifice for sins no longer exists for them." ☹️

c. Will the LORD follow through? **28-29, 31** "Anyone who has ignored the Law of Moses is put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. ²⁹ How much more severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant..., and has insulted the Spirit of grace? ... ³¹ It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God." // So, let us be open to God's word and daily repentance!

8. **Why Is It Vital to See our Need?** "...you cannot desire Jesus' cure for you sins unless you first become aware of your sins and your need for the medicine of His forgiveness."¹ // **Luke 5:30-32** "The Pharisees and their scribes *began* grumbling to [Jesus'] disciples, saying, 'Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?' ...Jesus answered and said to them, '*It is not those who*

¹ Good News, Concordia Mission Society, Repentance, Issue 16, page 13.

are healthy who need a physician, **but** those who are sick. I have **not** come to call the righteous to repentance, **but** sinners.”

9. What Is Good News For Contrite Sinners?

- a. **Luke 18:13–14** “...the tax collector [*a known sinner*], standing some distance away, was even unwilling to raise his eyes toward heaven, but was beating his chest, saying, ‘**God, be merciful to me, the sinner!**’ [Jesus said:] ‘**I tell you, this man went to his house justified...**’ // Why? Because – *by God’s grace* – he was ➔aware of his sins, ➔sorry for his sins, ➔turning from his sins, and ➔open to God’s gift of forgiveness!
- b. “When the Holy Spirit does His divine work in you, creating in you the realization of your sins, He enables you to look at Jesus’ cross in a whole new way” (Ibid.).
- c. “Never grow tired of seeing Jesus hanging on the cross... there you can see both your sin and your redemption” (Ibid.).

Let Us Pray: Father in heaven, You know every heart – ➔repentant or unrepentant, ➔sorry or not, ➔turning from sin or willfully continuing in sin, ➔trusting in self or trusting in Jesus. You also know that many are being deceived, *and they don’t even know it*. Please ➔give strong confirmation and peace to all who know you, **and**, *for those who are lost*, ➔reveal the truth, ➔work strong contrition, and ➔grant the gift of saving faith!

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