

## The Call to Repentance

- A. Jesus began his teaching ministry with this bold proclamation. **Matthew 4:17**  
He commands repentance as a requirement for entrance into His kingdom.
- B. Jesus declared that His ministry was to call sinners to repentance. **Luke 5:32**
- C. Repentance is the keynote theme of New Testament preaching:

### I. WHAT REPENTANCE IS NOT.

- A. Conviction of sin is not repentance.  
Conviction opens the door to repentance,  
but a person can be deeply convicted and still not repent. **Acts 24:24-25**
- B. Sorrow for sin is not repentance.  
Repentance includes sorrow and remorse,  
but it is possible to be sorry for sin and still not repent. **2 Corinthians 7:9**
- C. Hatred of sin is not repentance.  
Repentance includes this, but it is possible to hate sin and yet not to turn from it.
- D. Promising to be better is not repentance.  
Consider the Prodigal son. **Luke 15:18 –19**  
By him simply saying that he'd return didn't indicate repentance.  
But that by no means is the end of his story. **Luke 15:20a**

### II. WHAT TRUE REPENTANCE RESULTS IN.

- A. True repentance results in a change of mind.  
The change of mind involves an entirely new attitude towards God, towards sin  
and towards self. **Matthew 21:28-29**
- B. True repentance results in a change of feeling.  
After conversion, Saul was overwhelmed with remorse at the way he had treated  
the Lord Jesus.
- C. True repentance results in a change of purpose. **Acts 9:6** Paul did a 180.
- D. True repentance results in change of conduct. Consider Zacchaeus.

### III. TRUE REPENTANCE IS A DIVINE GIFT.

- A. True repentance is only possible because of God's grace.  
No one can repent unless God grants repentance. **Acts 5:31; Acts 11:18**
- B. The goodness of God leads to True repentance. **Romans 2:4**

### IV. REPENTANCE IS ONE OF THREE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN SALVATION.

1. The conviction of the Holy Spirit. **John 16:8-11**
2. Saving faith, not just believing **Romans 10:9,10**
3. True repentance; agreeing with God about your sin. **1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

### V. WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO REPENT?

Right now. **Isaiah 1:18; 2 Peter 3:9**

The Lord is patiently waiting for you.

He doesn't want anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."