

## **DEVOTED & USEFUL**

INSPECTING OUR REPENTANCE 2 CORINTHIANS 7:5-12

(vv.8-10)

2 Cor. 7:5 For even when we came into Macedonia. our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within. 6 But God, who comforts the downcast. comforted us by the coming of Titus, 7 and not only by his coming but also by the comfort with which he was comforted by you, as he told us of your longing, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced still more. 8 For even if I made you grieve with my letter, I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. 9 As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. 10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. 11 For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter. 12 So although I wrote to you, it was not for the sake of the one who did the wrong, nor for the sake of the one who suffered the wrong, but in order that your earnestness for us might be revealed to you in the sight of God. (ESV)

## **Application Questions**

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

- 1. Read **Isaiah 55:6-7.** What does this passage reveal about God's heart toward repentant sinners, and how should that motivate you to seek him quickly and sincerely?
- 2. Read **Psalm 51:17** and **James 4:8-11.** What do these two texts reveal about the role of sorrow in repentance, and why should that correct our instinct to escape anything that feels painful?
- 3. Read **Hebrews 4:12-13.** How does the penetrating work of Scripture make it essential for guiding real repentance and testing the authenticity of our sorrow?
- 4. Read **Revelation 2:5.** How does comparing your current walk with your early love for Christ expose specific places where repentance is required today?
- 5. Read **Colossians 1:10-14.** How does this description of a life that is growing in holiness inspire you to deal seriously and completely with any sin the Spirit exposes?

The following related sermons are also available for downloading or streaming on the Focal Point Website and App (FPR.org).

 $Msg.\ 24\text{-}06-\textbf{\textit{The Path of Sanctification}}$ 

Msg. 06-14 - A Crash Course in Repentance & Faith

Msg. 12-27 - Responding to the King of Kings

Msg. 13-02 - Why "As You Are" Can't Stay that Way

Msg. 12-18 – *Guilt & Forgiveness* 

Msg. 24-02 - The Gift of Repentance

Msg. 06-52 - Good Works & Eternal Life: Avoiding the Biggest

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Dec. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Dan.9-10 & 2Jn.
Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Dan.11-12 & 3Jn.
Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Hos.1-4 & Jude
Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Hos.5-8 & Rev.1
Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Hos.9-11 & Rev.2
Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup>	Hos.12-14 & Rev.3
Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Joel 1-3 & Rev.4
Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Amos 1-3 & Rev.5

Here are some books that may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Adams, Jay. The Christian Counselor's Manual. Zondervan, 1973.

Brooks, Thomas. Repent and Believe. Banner of Truth (Pocket Puritan Series), 2008.

Chantry, Walter J. Today's Gospel: Authentic or Synthetic? Banner of Truth, 1970.

DeYoung, Kevin. *The Hole in Our Holiness.* Crossway, 2012.

Ferguson, Sinclair B. The Christian Life: A Doctrinal Introduction. Banner of Truth, 1981.

Hegg, David. The Obedience Option: Because God Knows What's Good for Us. Christian Focus, 2010.

Kistler, Don. Trust and Obey: Obedience and the Christian. Soli Deo Gloria Ministries, 1997.

Miller, C. John. Repentance and the 20th Century Man. Christian Literature Crusade, 1975.

Owen, John. The Mortification of Sin. Banner of Truth, 2004.

Pettegrew, Larry D. The New Covenant Ministry of the Holy Spirit. Kregel Academic, 2001.

Pink, A. W. Repentance. Triangle Press, 1996.

Ryle, J. C. Holiness: Its Nature, Hindrances, Difficulties and Roots. Charles Nolan Publishers, 2001.

Watson, Thomas. The Doctrine of Repentance. Banner of Truth, 1987.