

A Sound Church

A sound church is not merely a church that sounds good, but rather one that is firmly anchored in truth!

“That they may be sound”
Titus 1:13

- Sound in **DOCTRINE** • Titus 2:1
- Sound in **FAITH** • Titus 1:13
- Sound in **UNITY** • John 17
- Sound in **ORGANIZATION** • Ephesians 4:11
- Sound in **WORK** • Titus 3:1
- Sound in **WORSHIP** • John 4:24
- Sound in **TEACHING** • 2 Timothy 4:1-4
- Sound in **GIVING** • 2 Corinthians 9:7-8
- Sound in **ZEAL** • 2 Corinthians 9:2
- Sound in **LEADERSHIP** • Acts 2:38



“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine.” Titus 2:1

Barnes' Bible Charts

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Common To Man



The Brilliant Beacon



TRUE REPENTANCE

By Brian Kenyon

It has been observed that repentance is one of the hardest commands to obey. It is not always easy to change one’s mind and reform his or her life. There are many biblical examples that teach true repentance, but for this study let us consider the Corinthians. In 1 Corinthians, Paul addressed many problems with the church. However, when Paul wrote 2 Corinthians about six months later he had a much more pleasant tone. Why? Because the Corinthians had truly repented! Let us learn from 2 Corinthians 7:8-11 what true repentance requires.

First, true repentance requires the realization of the nature and consequence of our sin.

“For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent [regret it ASV], though I did repent [regret it ASV]: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though it were but for a season” (2 Cor. 7:8). Paul’s writing of 1 Corinthians brought to their attention the grievous sins they had committed and the consequences of those sins (cf. 1 Cor. 5:11-13). Because of this confrontation, the Corinthians were made sorry, and thus repented. Paul did not regret that he confronted them with their sins, because his letter accomplished its purpose of making them sorry for their sins. Suppose that Paul had never brought these sins to their attention. Would they have been made sorry? Would they have repented?

If we are to truly repent we must also realize the nature and consequences of our own sins. The consequences of sin are spiritual death and separation from God (Isa. 59:1-2; Ezk. 18:20; Rom. 6:23). It is no wonder then that Jesus said, “But, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Lk. 13:3).

Second, true repentance requires godly sorrow.

“Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of [which bringeth no regret ASV]: but the sorrow of the world worketh death” (2 Cor. 7:9-10).

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Patty Berryhill: having problems with a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

Felicia Berryhill: she is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that she will be able to receive the right medical treatment to help her

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

David Warren: he is fighting cancer, please be praying that his cancer will be defeated

Janet Spann: has severe COPD and other health problems, please keep her and her family in your prayers

Tommy Housh: diagnosed with bladder cancer, please pray that they will be able to successfully defeat this cancer

Ren Garrison (Donna Martin’s Nephew): is still dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that this issue will be dealt with successfully

Jack Willis (Meg Rutledge’s Father) is fighting cancer, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please pray that she will improve

Celia Grace Hamlett (3 year old): biopsies came back cancer they are doing blood studies to confirm; let us pray that the results are negative and that she is cancer free

Nelle Fraizer (Lellie’s Sister); she has some ongoing health problems

Winfred York: is at home and has been placed under hospice care, please continue to pray for him and Mrs. Vertie

Please remember the family of Buddy Frazier, he passed away Thursday, his funeral will be tomorrow.

Upcoming Events

May 13 th	Wednesday Night Bible Study	7:00 pm
May 17 th	Regular Sunday Schedule Bible Study (2 nd Sam. 14:15) - 10:00 am Morning Worship - 10:45 am Evening Worship - 5:00 pm	
May 17 th	Sunday Night Singing	5:00 pm
June 21 st – 25 th	Gospel Meeting (Dorian Flynn)	

Paul’s previous letter, accomplished its purpose--repentance (cf. 2 Cor. 2:3-4). Note that the Corinthians were made sorry after a “godly manner” and that their sorrow is described as “godly sorrow.” Godly sorrow is literally “sorrow according to God.” That is, godly sorrow is the automatic result when we see sin as God sees sin. God hates sin (Prv. 6:16-19; cf Ps. 1:6)! Therefore, we must hate sin (Ps. 119:104; Prv. 8:13) and be of such a disposition that sin rends our hearts and causes us to seek forgiveness from God (Mt. 5:3-4; Jms. 4:8-9). Note also that godly sorrow works towards repentance, thus leading to salvation. There is a difference between mere sorrow and repentance. Sorrow may lead to repentance, but it is not repentance. One can be sorry without repenting, but true repentance can never occur without first being sorry after a “godly manner.” Repentance is a change of will, produced by sorrow for sin, which leads to a reformation of life (cf. Lk. 15:17-20a). Godly sorrow is also contrasted with the “sorrow of the world” which “worketh death.” Sorrow of the world is a sorrow which results from worldly considerations rather than sin. We can be sorry for something merely because we “got caught,” or because we lost respect in the eyes of men, or because we lost out on some worldly activity or fleshly lust. However, such sorrow leads to death because it does not lead us to true repentance. Only when we realize that sin is an offense to God and results in our separation from Him, will we have godly sorrow which “worketh repentance.”

Third, true repentance requires a reformation of life.

“For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter” (2 Cor. 7:11). The Corinthians had changed! They now had an earnest care (cf. “carefulness”) for their present course (cf. 1 Cor. 5:2). They removed the evil from among them and were thus self-vindicated (cf. “clearing of yourselves”). They now possessed a righteous anger (cf. “indignation”) with themselves that they allowed and tolerated such sins as were mentioned by Paul in 1 Corinthians. They now had a “fear” for the measures Paul could have taken had they not responded to his word (cf. 1 Cor. 4:21). They now had a longing (cf. “vehement desire”) not only to be restored to God, but to gain a restoration of favor with Paul. They now zealously sought to make up for their past indifference toward sin. They now had properly disciplined the offender(s) according to Paul’s instructions, thus leaving “revenge” (avenging ASV) to God. Through this

reformation of life the Corinthians proved themselves to be pure in this matter and, therefore, showed that they had truly repented.

True repentance requires: (1) the realization of the nature and consequences of our sin; (2) godly sorrow for our sin; and (3) a reformation of life. God calls all to repentance (Acts 17:31), and He is longsuffering to that end (2 Pt. 3:9). Whether one is outside of the body of Christ or an erring child of God, one must truly repent if he or she is to find favor with God (Acts 2:38; 8:22). Have you truly repented?

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WANT TO CHRISTIANS

By Brian K. Giselbach

“Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious” (1 Peter 2: 1-3).

One of the most important words in this passage is “desire.” The word comes from the Greek word epipotheo, which means to be possessed with a desire or longing for. Webster’s Dictionary reveals that a synonym for “desire” is “want.” God wants Christians to have a WANT TO disposition when it comes to doing His will. It’s always easier and more enjoyable to do things when we want to do them. Likewise, this is true when it comes to serving the Lord.

As I look at the church today throughout the brotherhood, if there is one thing we need it is this WANT TO spirit. Imagine what we could do if every child of God had a deep abiding WANT TO in their hearts to serve God and give Him our very best!

What are some characteristics of WANT TO Christians?

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to study God’s word (2 Peter 2:1-3; Ephesians 5:17)!

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to worship God with fellow Christians (Hebrews 10:23-25)!

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to conduct their lives worthy of the gospel (Philippians 1:27)!

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to build up instead of tearing down (Ephesians 4:29)!

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to teach the gospel to the lost and dying (2 Corinthians 5:20)!

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to raise their children in the ways of God (Ephesians 6:4)!

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to resist the devil (James 4:7)!

WANT TO Christians have an intense desire to be with God in heaven (2 Corinthians 5:2)!

Are you a WANT TO Christian? Maybe your spiritual life has stagnated. Perhaps you have lost interest in things pertaining to the kingdom of God. It could very well be that what is missing in your life is your WANT TO. The Lord needs WANT TO Christians in WANT TO churches!

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