

Repentance

I. Our Great Need of Personal Repentance

1. All of mankind are sinners

Romans 3:23 – “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”

Sec 1 3e - ...”but every man walketh in his own way, and after the image of his own god, whose image is in the likeness of the world, and whose substance is that of an idol, which waxeth old and shall perish in Babylon, even Babylon the great, which shall fall.

3N 7: 34 “And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you,
At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations;

Other scriptures?

Charles Heil – “A sinner is a person who has become a problem to himself and to others through the disregard of God’s laws for his being. However small the sin, it takes something from us. Not only does sin separate us from God, it sets man at variance with man. It is the greatest cause of strife in the human family and race.” (*Quoted in Preparing Our Lives to Meet in a Solemn Assembly 2020*)

2. We Cannot Hide our Sins From God (consciously or unconsciously)

Psalms 69:5 O “God, thou knowest my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from thee.”

Psalms 90:8 “Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.”

Isaiah 64:6 “But we have sinned; we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

What does this mean "...our righteousness is a filthy rag"? (some saints take exception to this)

Thomas Mitchell - "God's all seeing eye pierces through all the darkness, all the distance, all the veils of this world to the intents of the heart. He knows our sins."

Unfortunately, we often do not see those sins as easily in our life. It may be easier or more convenient to see the faults of others. Let us not deceive ourselves; we are sinners, often wretched in our lesser moments. Let us not seek to hide what has been kept in the darkness. Let us confess our sins in the light to the only one who can cleanse them and make us whole.

(Preparing Our Lives to Meet in a Solemn Assembly 2020)

3. God Cannot Abide Sin in His Presence

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

D&C 1:5f ...for I the Lord cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance; nevertheless, he that repents and does the commandments of the Lord shall be forgiven;

D&C 81:1a-d "Verily I say unto you, my servants, that inasmuch as you have forgiven one another your trespasses, even so I, the Lord, forgive you; nevertheless there are those among you who have sinned exceedingly; yea, even all of you have sinned, but verily I say unto you, Beware from henceforth and refrain from sin lest sore judgments fall upon your heads; for unto whom much is given much is required; and he who sins against the greater light shall receive the greater condemnation. Ye call upon my name for revelations, and I give them unto you; and inasmuch as ye keep not my sayings which I give unto you, ye become transgressors, and justice and judgment is the penalty which is affixed unto my law."

Aurthur Oakman- "Zion could have been redeemed already, but there is too much sin in the church"
(Preaching series)

II. Jesus Christ Offers Himself a Sacrifice for Sin that Through Him We might Find Repentance and Redemption

(And therefor have opportunity to dwell in the presence of Good the Father)

Psalm 32:1-11 – “Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and who have no sins to be covered. Blessed is the man whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.....thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble.....Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him about.....Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous; and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.”

Psalm 51:1-3 “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving-kindness; according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions; and my sin is ever before me.”

Mosiah 1:108 – “But wo, wo unto him who knoweth that he rebelleth against God! For salvation cometh to none such, except it be through repentance and faith on the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Alma 13:53 “And if there is a God, and if thou art God, wilt thou make thyself known unto me, and I will give away all my sins to know thee, and that I may be raised from the dead, and be saved at the last day.”

