

LESSONNOTES

July 24 & 26, 2020

ESSENTIALS

You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.

James 2:19

Peter and John went to the Temple one afternoon to take part in the three o'clock prayer service. As they approached the Temple, a man lame from birth was being carried in. Each day he was put beside the Temple gate, the one called the Beautiful Gate, so he could beg from the people going into the Temple. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for some money.

Peter and John looked at him intently, and Peter said, "Look at us!" The lame man looked at them eagerly, expecting some money. But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!"

Then Peter took the lame man by the right hand and helped him up. And as he did, the man's feet and ankles were instantly healed and strengthened. He jumped up, stood on his feet, and began to walk! Then, walking, leaping, and praising God, he went into the Temple with them.

All the people saw him walking and heard him praising God. When they realized he was the lame beggar they had seen so often at the Beautiful Gate, they were absolutely astounded! They all rushed out in amazement to Solomon's Colonnade, where the man was holding tightly to Peter and John.

Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. "People of Israel," he said, "what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness?"

Acts 3:1 – 12

"You killed the author of life, but God raised Him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact!"

Acts 3:15

"Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord."

Acts 3:19 – 20

What is repentance?

Conviction.

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 6:23*

We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort. *Philippians 3:3*

“When He comes, He will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.” *Jesus in John 16:8*

Everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. *Romans 3:23*

Contrition.

Have mercy on me, O God, because of Your unfailing love. Because of Your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night. Against You, and You alone, have I sinned. *Psalms 51:1 – 4*

Change.

How do we repent?

We have to change our direction.

The kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death.

2 Corinthians 7:10

We have to change our behavior.

Stay away from every kind of evil. *1 Thessalonians 5:22*

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. *James 5:16*

If we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. *1 John 1:9*

Repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord. *Acts 3:19 – 20*

Why should we repent?

Relief.

Refreshment.

Restored Relationships.

"There is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents." *Jesus in Luke 15:10*

God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now He commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to Him. *Acts 17:30*

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