

Eight Essential Elements of the Biblical Christian Gospel Series
Element 6: Receiving Jesus Christ / Responding to the Gospel

Element 6H: Receiving Jesus Christ - Responding to the Gospel - Repentance Prioritized

Sunday Bible Study Prepared by Gregory A. Weis for July 3, 2016 / 57th Lesson in 8 Essential Elements of the Biblical Christian Gospel Series

I. Eight Essential Elements: Outline & Overview

0. Intro: Proclamation / Pre-Evangelism / Disciples / Pole Fishing / Diagnostic Tools / 7 Missing Elements
1. God: Essential Biblical Attributes: (Non-Communicable & Communicable)
2. Man: Essential Biblical Attributes: (3 Issues / Culpability / Empowerment)
3. The 10 Commandments: (Exodus 20:1-17) & (Deuteronomy 5:1-21)
4. Historical Narrative of Israel: Gospel Presentations in Acts (Ex. 19:1-6; 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Eph. 2:11-22)
5. Jesus Christ: Only Mediator: Intro to Christology: Bridge / Solution / Ministry / Atonement / Reign
6. Receiving Jesus Christ: (John 1:12-13) Responding: Key Components & Exchanges of Soteriology
7. The First 5 Steps Into the Kingdom of Christ: Acts 2:37-47 (See Pt. I, E, 3 Above)
8. Maturing in Jesus Christ: 3 Tools of Grace - Vital Growth Ingredients / Necessity of Discipleship

II. Messages 1 - 20: Elements 0 - 4: Defining Bad News (Gap): God, Man, Decalogue & Christ as Israel (Telos)

III. Messages 21- 49: Element 5: Jesus: Only Solution or Mediator / Christology (1 Tim. 2:3-6) (Matt. 16:13-18)

IV. Main Theme Verse(s) for Essential Element 6 of the Biblical Christian Gospel Series: Receiving Jesus

(John 1:11-13) ¹² But to all who did λαμβάνω Him, who believed in His name, He gave the ἐξουσία to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

V. Importance of Biblical Vocabulary: Jargon - Element 6 (1 Cor. 2:6-13) spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

VI. Review: Elements 6A - 6F: Receiving Jesus Christ: Intro to Biblical Vocabulary of Salvation: Key Words

Note: Must Be Combined w/ Experience vs. Mere Theoretical Knowledge: (James 2:19-20) (Heb. 11:1-33-40)

Words So Far: Salvation, Save & Saved; Draw; Rescue &/or Deliver; Receive, Right (ἐξουσία / Authority & Power)

Regeneration Words: New Birth; Born Again; Made Alive / **Conversion Words:** Convict, Confess, Contrite, Repent

Words to Come: (More Elements of Conversion): Renounce, Faith (Trust), Follow, Obedience, Discipleship, Etc.

VII. Last Week: Elements 6G: Repent (Repentance) Defined w/ Eight (8) Statements Defining Repentance

A. Repent Greek: Verb μετανοέω (metanoéō); to change one's mind; to think differently or afterwards, i.e. reconsider (morally, feel compunction); repent; to change one's mind heartily w/ abhorrence of sin.

B. Repentance: Greek Feminine Noun: μετάνοια (metánoia); a change of mind or of purpose or deeds; compunction (for guilt, including reformation); by implication, reversal (of decision); repentance.

C. Eight Biblical Definitions of Repentance from Scripture Defining Scripture

- 1.) Repentance is Primarily Intellectual & Volitional not Emotional (Volition = Will, Decision)
- 2.) Repentance Must be Radical and Foundational. (Radical = At the Roots)
- 3.) Repentance is the First Emphasis of Scripture in Receiving Jesus (New Birth & Conversion)
 - a. Repentance makes room for Jesus presence in our lives.
 - b. Biblical faith is never just "believe" in an abstract, mere mental assent, non-specific context
- 4.) Repentance is the Prerequisite of Faith. (Precursor; Essential Foundation) (John 7:17)
 - a. Repentance is the key that unlocks the door to faith to follow & obey Jesus.
 - b. Repentance must occur for Biblical faith to exist.
- 5.) Repentance is the Gift of God & Initiated by God.
- 6.) Repentance is an Ongoing Daily Foundation of the Christian Life.
- 7.) Repentance Always Brings Forth Fruit. (Repentance brings changes in behavior, motives & attitudes)
 - a. Repentance will produce ongoing changes in character, lifestyle.
 - b. Repentance changes destiny. (Changes path / course & therefore ultimately destination)
- 8.) Repentance is not only "from" but most importantly "toward" (seeking & loving) God
Repentance is more than a change in Direction – it is a change in Connection. Who is our center?
Repentance includes a change in "First Loves." Repentance is "falling in Love."

VIII. Today: Element 6H Repent (Repentance): Prioritized in the New Testament (Covenant)

Repentance is the First Word Priority in the Ministries of (1) John the Baptizer, (2) Jesus & (3) Apostles

Note 1: Repentance is First Priority: Prepares the Way for Christ to Come. Key That Unlocks Faith. (#4 Above)
(John 7:17) If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God ... (NASB)

Note 2: This **included** Conviction (Reproof); Confession, Contrition, Repentance, Renunciation & Restitution.
Contemporary "Bible-Believing" Christianity Emphasizes Forgiveness & Reconciliation Apart From Above.

1.) **John the Baptizer: Preparer for Christ;** Greatest Prophet; First Wave of Visitation; Ushering in NT. (#3)
(Matthew 3:1-2, 5-12) ^{3:1} Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching (proclaiming, declaring, announcing) in the wilderness of Judea, saying, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ⁵ Then Jerusalem was going out to him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan; ⁶ and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ""You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come (Explain)? ⁸ Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance (#7); ⁹ and do not suppose that you can say to yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father"; for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ ""The axe is already laid at the root of the trees (#2); therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
(Mark 1:1-13) ⁴ John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." ⁵ And all the country of Judea was going and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. (#3)

2.) **Jesus: Our Pattern;** 1st Words of His Public Ministry & 1st Instructions to Apostolic Disciples.
(Mark 1:14-15) ¹⁴ Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe (#4) in the gospel.
(Matthew 4:17) From that time Jesus began to preach (Lit. proclaim) and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (#3, 4, 5 & 8) (Discuss Context) (Cf. Matthew 3:11 above)
(Mark 6:7-13) ⁷ And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits; ⁸ and He instructed them ¹² They went out and preached (proclaimed) that men should repent. ¹³ And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.
(Luke 15:7, 10) I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ... (Discuss Context of Luke 15) (Also Luke 13:1-5)
(Luke 24:47-49) ... and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until ... clothed with power ..." (Don't Confuse w/ Only Confession)

3.) **The Apostolic Proclamation, Pattern & Teaching:** (See Mark 6:7-13 & Luke 24:47-49 Above.)
(Acts 2:37-40) Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" ³⁸ Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, and "Be saved from this perverse generation!"
(Acts 3:19-21) Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; ²⁰ and that He may send Jesus, the Christ ... (#3)
(Acts 5:31) He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. (Repentance: An Emphasis of NT Church Message) (#5) (More than Confession)
(Acts 11:18) When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life. (#5: Repentance is the Gift of God.) (Cf. Acts 5:31 w/ 11:18)
(Acts 17:30) Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, ³¹ because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world ... (Cf. w/ Acts 5:31 & 11:18)

IX. Next Week: Element 6H: More Soteriological Response to Gospel Vocabulary: Repentance Surveyed in NT



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