

Pleasant Valley Weekly

But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy; In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple. (Psalm 47 : 6—7)

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Issue 5

Forgiveness & Repentance When? & Why? & How?

The very principal in which Christianity is built upon, forgiveness, is also the very principal in which we have many of our own conclusions, assumptions, and disagreements.

A question has come before us this morning concerning sin, forgiveness, and repentance. What makes a sin a private sin, what makes it public? When must we repent publically? And how do we know the difference?

In order to understand such a question and how to properly answer it, we must first understand the reason for repentance and forgiveness.

Jesus taught many things concerning forgiveness, after all, Jesus said, "I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." (Mark 2:17) Why is it that we neglect such a free gift of repentance and forgiveness, by establishing our own parameters on When, Why, & How it is to be done and received?

What does God specifically command us to do? Let's answer this question, and then just do that. Ironically, if we just do what God has laid out for us to do, then we will understand the When, Why, and How repentance and forgiveness is asked for and received. This is where we will begin our study.

Forgiveness & Repentance When? & Why? & How?

- * Ask yourself, "Should we just forgive?"
 - What does God command concerning forgiveness and repentance?
- * Truth 1: Man cannot forgive sins
 - Luke 5 : 17—21—"Who can forgive sins but God alone?"
- * Truth 2: Sin has two consequences; worldly and eternally
 - Sin breaks the fellowship with God (Eternal) and with our Brethren (Worldly)
- * What is the goal of repentance?
 - Matthew 18 : 15—17—To restore fellowship.
- * Repentance & Forgiveness
 - We repent when we sin, we are forgiven when we repent.
- * Private Sins
 - Are private by nature, no one knows.
- * Public Sins
 - Are public by nature, people know.
- * Repentance Publically or Privately?
 - Public sins are repented for publically so that all know of the change of heart.
 - Private sins can be repented of privately, since no one is aware of the break in fellowship that has occurred.