

Isa 55:6-13
April 3, 2022

A call to repentance Isa 55:6-7

6 Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

What is repentance?

Repentance means to change your mind, to turn from sin and turn to God. It is a change of mind that is reflected in a change of conduct.

Repentance from sin (Lk 24:46-47; Acts 2:38-40; 3:19; 8:22).

Repentance towards God (Acts 20:21; 26:19-20).

Repentance comes from God.

The kindness of God leads you to repentance (Rom 2:4).

God grants repentance (Acts 5:29-31; 11:18; 2Tim 2:24-26).

Five steps to repentance (Judges 10:6-18):

1. We (I) have sinned - the acknowledgment of sin (v. 15).
2. They put away their idols - they turn from sin (v. 16).
3. Do to us what seems good to You - they surrendered to God (v. 15).
4. Only deliver us today - desire to be free from sin (v. 15).
5. They serve the Lord - changed their conduct (v. 15).

God abundantly pardons (forgives).

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Redemption is forgiveness of sins

Eph 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

Col 1:13-14 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

God's ways and thoughts are above man's Isa 55:8-9

8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

This passage in Isa 55:8-9 is often taken as a direct statement about God's transcendence: His nature and plan are infinitely beyond human understanding. God is infinitely different from us in His thoughts and ways. The biblical portrait of God develops both transcendent and immanent aspects of His nature. The transcendent aspect is not like people and infinitely above people. The immanent aspect is intimately present with people and among people. God's transcendence places Him beyond the limits of time and space. His nature as uncreated and separate from His creation is a fundamental concept distinguishing a biblical understanding of God from other philosophical or religious theories.

[from Faith life Study Bible]

God's Word works Isa 55:10-11

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; 11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Psa 33:6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host. ... 9 For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

His word works in accordance with His covenant

This means that we need to have good theological understanding of covenant to be able to use the word of God to its full potential in our life.

Heb 6:17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

1 Chron 16:13-17 Remember His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations, 14 He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth. 15 Remember His covenant forever, The word which He commanded to a thousand generations, 16 The covenant which He made with Abraham, And His oath to Isaac. 17 He also confirmed it to Jacob for a statute, To Israel as an everlasting covenant,

Ps 119:89 Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven.

Isa 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.

How we are to respond to the Word

Study the Word to put it in your heart. (Mt 4:4; Dt 6:6-9; Ezek 3:3, 10)

Meditate in the Word (Ps 1:2; Ps 4:4-5)

Read the Word (1Tim 4:13)

Search (examine) the Word diligently (Ac 17:11)

Receive the Word (Jas 1:21; Ac 11:1; 1Thes 2:13)

Confess the Word (Rom 10:8-10; Phil 2:11; Mt 10:32; Lk 12:8; 1 Jn 4:3; Rev 3:5)

Be a doers of the word (Jas 1:22-23; Mt 8:24-27)

Respond in faith/obedience (Rom 16:26; Rom 1:5; 15:18)

Respond in humility (Isa 66:2; 2Ki 22:19)

Stand in awe (1Ki 19:11-14; Neh 8:5; Ps 119:161)

Life in the spirit Isa 55:12- 13

12 "For you will go out with joy And be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands. 13 "Instead of the thorn bush the cypress will come up, And instead of the nettle the myrtle will come up, And it will be a memorial to the LORD, For an everlasting sign which will not be cut off."

Joy and peace

Rom 14:17 for the kingdom of God is ... righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Praise and rejoicing

Eph 5:18-20 ... be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things ... (Col 3:16; Phil 4:4; 1Thes 5:16)

The curse is removed (the thorn bush and the nettle)
and blessings follow the cypress and the myrtle)