

THE LIFESTYLE OF REPENTANCE

Ashes to Easter – Lent 3

March 3, 2013

Luke 13:1 (TNIV) “Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.”

Luke 13:2-3 (TNIV) “Jesus answered, ‘Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? ³I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.’”

Romans 3:22b-23 (GW) “...There is no difference between people. ²³Because all people have sinned, they have fallen short of God's glory.”

Luke 13:4-5 (TNIV) “Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

Repentance Means...

- A Change of Mind
- A Change of Will
- A Change in Action

WHEN YOU TURN TO GOD...

- You enjoy the CARE of God.

Luke 13:6a (NIV) “Then He told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard...’

- You are EXPECTED to produce fruit.

Luke 13:6b (NIV) “A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any.”

You must BE a Christ-follower before you try to act like one!

- You have the ability to DISAPPOINT God.

Luke 13:7a (NIV) “So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any.’”

- You can expect JUDGMENT when your behavior disappoints God.

Luke 13:7b (NIV) “Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?”

God wants the fruit of our behavior and character to reflect His character and behavior.

- You will be offered the MERCY of a second-chance.

Luke 13:8-9 (NIV) “ ‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”

Matthew 3:8 (NIV) “Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.”

Galatians 5:19-23a (NLT) “When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, ²¹envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. ²²But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control.”

The lifestyle of repentance is CHOOSING to turn to God every moment of every day!