

**Goodness leads to Repentance**  
**Sunday September 8, 2024**  
**Dr. Pete Norris**

Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? **(Romans 2:4 NKJV)**

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, **(Titus 2:11, 12 NKJV)**

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, **(Hebrews 6:1 NKJV)**

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? **(Hebrews 9:14 NKJV)**

Dead works are not sins. They are the religious things that people do, thinking that by doing these things, they are gaining righteousness with God.

Under the Old Testament it is repentance that leads to blessing in New Testament blessing that lead to repentance.

Repent: "to change your mind". Repentance doesn't mean "to be sin conscious".

For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins. **(Hebrews 10:2-4 NKJV)**

Let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us

clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. **(Hebrews 10:22 NLT)**

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! **(John 1:29 NKJV)**

And that water is a picture of baptism, which now saves you, not by removing dirt from your body, but as a response to God from a clean conscience. It is effective because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. **(1 Peter 3:21 NLT)**

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace **(Ephesians 1:7 NKJV)**

That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. **(Ephesians 2:7 NKJV)**

Exceeding is the Greek word “hyperballo” means “to go beyond.”

John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. **(Mark 1:4, 5 NKJV)**

The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it. **(Luke 16:16 NKJV)**

John was under the Law.

Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” **(Mark 1:14, 15 NKJV)**

What is the Gospel? The good news.

Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. **(Acts 8:5 NKJV)**

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. **(Acts 8:35 NKJV)**

for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses delivered to us.” **(Acts 6:14 NKJV)**

To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins. **(Acts 10:43 NKJV)**

Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses. **(Acts 13:38, 39 ).**

testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. **(Acts 20:21 NKJV)**

Repentance is to change your mind toward God.

Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself. **(Matthew 27:3-5 KJV)**

Repented Himself is the Greek word remorseful. Remorsefulness is not repentance.

Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” And they said, “What is that to us? You see to it!” Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. **(Matthew 27:3-5 NKJV)**

If he had waited only a few more hours. He would pay the price himself for his sins.

When people take their own life, it is self-righteousness, they are paying for their own sins.

Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." So He spoke this parable to them, saying: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance. **(Luke 15:1-7 NKJV)**

What did the sheep do? The sheep must consent to be loved, to be carried, and to enter rest. He was talking to the Scribes and Pharisees. The sheep knew they were lost the Scribes and Pharisees didn't know they were lost. We know that Jesus was not talking about no one that did not need repentance, because we all need repentance. He was saying the Scribes and Pharisees didn't know they needed repentance.

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. **(Luke 15:8-10 KJV)**

Coin means image. He was saying, how did the coin repent?

I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry. **(Luke 15:18-24 NKJV)**

Pigs and Jews don't mix. **V- 20** He wants to earn the way to the blessings of the Father. Look at the five things that the father did. Five means Grace. **(1)** saw him **(2)** had compassion on him **(3)** ran to him **(4)** fell on his neck **(5)** kissed him. He did all that before the son repented. Perfect picture of goodness leads to repentance. The love came before repentance.

And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' **(Luke 15:21 NKJV)**

The older son was symbolic of the Scribes and Pharisees.  
The younger son was symbolic of Grace.