

## LESSON 11: REPENTANCE VS. REMORSE

### INTRODUCTION

Ultimately, God sometimes has to break us to bring us closer to Him. How we respond to God's rebuke is vital in determining if we are truly broken or not. In order to be broken, we have to be repentant and not just remorseful over what we have done. Although there are many similarities between repentance and remorse, there are two key differences, which can be seen when we look at the lives of Peter and Judas.

### SIMILARITIES BETWEEN PETER AND JUDAS

- ▶ From your knowledge of Scripture, how are Peter and Judas similar?
- ❖ Both men received the same calling, to be an apostle. They are not called to betray Jesus. After an entire night in prayer, Jesus appoints them as disciples to take His message into the world. (**Matthew 4:18-19, Luke 6:12-16**)
- ❖ Their training is the same. Although Peter, James, and John were allowed to see some things the others did not, all the disciples still had the same training and teaching.
- ❖ Both have the authority inside the group of disciples. Peter is one of the big three and Judas manages the money.
- ❖ Their warnings were the same. (**Matthew 26:24, 34**)
  - In verse 24, Jesus tells Judas "The Son of Man will go just as it is written about Him." In other words, He was saying, I am going to die on the cross, and you do not have to betray me. If you do betray me, then great damage will come to your life.
  - In verse 34, Jesus warns Peter that he will betray Him. He does not tell Peter that he has to betray Him. He simply warns him of what is about to happen.
- ❖ Each had an act of betrayal.
  - **Matthew 26:47-50:** There are 3 different words for kiss. *Kataphilio* is the word used when Judas kisses Jesus. It was passionate as if they were very best friends. Deep emotions were tied into his betrayal.
    - ***Kataphilio***-great passion and earnest-super emotional use of hugs and kisses was used only on the most RARE occasions of deep and profound emotional circumstances
    - ***Phileo***-, affectionate, passionate fondness
    - ***Philemo***- simple kiss and nothing else-"holy" kiss is merely a pure, sacred, ceremonial kiss—a simple kiss
  - **Matthew 26:73-74:** By the intense cursing, we see that Peter's betrayal is just as emotional and passionate as Judas's betrayal.
- ❖ The initial reaction of the two men to the betrayal is identical.

- **Matthew 27:1-5:** When Judas realizes what he has done, he is sorry for his action. He comes in tears and says that he has betrayed innocent blood. He displays outward grief.
- **Matthew 26:75:** When Peter meets Jesus eyes after the betrayal; he instantly exhibits emotional grief and weeps bitterly.
- ❖ Peter and Judas were the only men to stay when Jesus faces the Sanhedrin

### **DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PETER AND JUDAS**

**Read Matthew 27:5 and Acts 2:14, 37-41**

- ▶ How are their consequences of betrayal different?

Judas is so upset with what he has done that he goes out and brutally hangs himself. Peter on the other hand, goes on to preach to thousands and people come to Christ. Peter betrays God in front of a handful of people, but after his brokenness, he is bold enough to preach in front of thousands including the Jewish leadership.

Basically, it comes down to the difference that Judas was remorseful, but Peter was repentant.

### **REPENTANCE AND REMORSE**

**Read 2 Corinthians 7:10**

- ▶ How can sorrow be different and lead to different consequences?

According to this passage, there are two types of sorrows. One is a worldly sorrow (remorse) that leads to death. The other is godly sorrow (repentance) where there is no regret as it leads to life.

**Read Matthew 27:3-5, John 21:17, Matthew 26:75 and Acts 2:14, 37-41**

- ▶ What kind of sorrow is seen in each of these passages?

Matthew 27 is worldly sin leading to death, remorse. The rest of the passages indicate repentance or godly sorrow leading to life.

### **REMORSE**

**Read Matthew 27:3**

- ▶ Why is Judas upset in this passage?

It is commonly believed that Jesus was picked up on Thursday night around 6:00 pm. It is now Friday around 6:00 am. Twelve hours passed without Judas ever saying anything. When it says that Judas “saw that Jesus was condemned,” it appears that Judas never thought Jesus would actually be killed. Judas was mad at Jesus for rebuking him publicly a few days before when the woman wanted to pour the expensive oil on Jesus’ feet and Judas tries to stop her (Matthew 12:1-8). Judas is mad at Jesus and just wants to get even.

While Peter's grief was instant, Judas's grief was hours later. He does not grieve that he has hurt Jesus, but rather grieves over the consequences of his betrayal (Jesus death).

Remorse is when you are grieved over the consequences of your actions.

### **REPENTANCE**

**Read Luke 22:60-62**

- ▶ Why is Peter upset in this passage?

Peter is distraught over the fact that he had hurt Jesus. His reaction is instant when he meets Jesus' eyes and realizes what he has done.

Repentance is when you are grieved over the fact that you hurt Jesus.

**Read Psalm 51:1-4**

- ▶ What kind of sorrow is seen here?

This is the Psalm of David when Nathan, the prophet, came to confront David after he had gone into Bathsheba, gotten her pregnant, and killed her husband, one of his mighty men. Despite the fact that David harmed Uriah, Bathsheba, his children, and the nation of Israel, this is not why David is sorry. He says to God "against You, You only have I sinned."

### **CONCLUSION**

There is no way that a person can be saved unless they are repentant. If you have a sin that controls you, and you find yourself weeping, crying, and moaning, over it but never turn away from it, then you are remorseful but not repentant. The Holy Spirit must speak to your heart, and it is He that makes you sorry or repentant. With true repentance comes victory.

**Read 1 John 3:6**

If you are walking in the Spirit, then the moment you sin, He will convict you. If it is a long time before you are bothered by your sin, then you are probably not walking in the Spirit. At some point when the Holy Spirit speaks to you, if you are really repentant, then you will be sorry for your sin. There is no way that when God Himself indwells you that it does not have a profound impact on your life.

Today if you hear His voice, then respond. You cannot be saved without hearing His voice. We have made Christianity so easy. In the end, it has to be the voice of God in your heart to be saved. If a person is repentant then they will change. There must be a consistency of righteousness. If there is a consistency of sin and that stays until you die, then you were never a Christian. True repentance brings about life-long changes that bring you closer to God and His will for your life.