

The result of turning from your Sin

All Scripture is KJV:

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY?

What I want to talk about this morning is the result of a person turning away from their sin.

Acts 3:26

Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Now the part of the verse that I want to focus on here in Acts 3:26, is the part where Jesus says that he has come to bless them first who have believed in Jesus, and secondly he has come to bless them in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Now straight away I don't want you to get confused, in that this passage of scripture it is not talking about salvation by turning away from your sin, but rather a blessing in that now that you have been saved, the blessing comes as a result of you turning away from your iniquities that lie ahead of you in life.

You see the bible is very clear that salvation is by faith in Christ alone and grace alone and that it is not of works. We have been through salvation already, but I found it necessary to follow up with this sermon on the blessings of being saved, and the blessings of turning from your known sin now that you are saved.

- So salvation is not of works otherwise we would boast about how good we are. But salvation is not of works.
- You see it is better to live a life without iniquities, than trying to live a life with iniquities.

Ephesians 2:8-9 makes it quite clear salvation is by believing and not of works.

Ephesians 2:8-9 King James Version (KJV)

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

⁹ Not of works, **lest any man should boast.**

1. So the blessing Jesus is talking about comes as a result of you being saved and then turning away from your iniquities in your life going forward. (sin).
2. That is why also the bible says that there are different sins, because not all sin is equal or judged equally by God. Remember when Jesus said to them that those of you who has committed the greater sin.
3. That's why it is not possible to completely turn from your sin because there are some sins that you cannot overcome because of the inherent sin of the flesh.

4. But there are sins or inequities that we can stop doing which if we do will help us tremendously in being able to lead a blessed life. For example if you quit drinking or quit smoking your body will live longer. Those being the obvious ones.

So just as the bible says in Acts 3:26 that.....God sent his son Jesus.

....having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

- So according to God the Father, Jesus has been sent to us to bless us and help us as we turn away from sin.
1. Is it not wonderful to know that despite Jesus having saved us, he has still come through for us to help us turn away from those sins that caused us so many problems in the first place.
 2. It is not wonderful that it is Jesus who continues to work in us to perfect his work in us despite us having being saved.
 3. That's why the bible says that.....in Philippians 1:6 for example.....He which has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of our redemption.
 4. So according to the bible God will continue to use his Son Jesus to perfect us until we die and are raised up again in our redemption.

Philippians 1:6King James Version (KJV)

⁶ Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Philippians 2:13King James Version (KJV)

¹³ For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

Hebrews 13:21King James Version (KJV)

²¹ Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1. From these few scriptures alone, we can see that Jesus did not just save us only from eternal hellfire, but that he also works in us to continue a good work so that we can reap the blessings of this life as well.

Think about it. If this body of ours which is still the old body, even despite that our soul has been redeemed. This body of ours just wants to naturally do that which is evil. Paul had this fight in himself saying that there was a law in his members wanting to always do that which is evil.

[Romans 7:21](#)

I find then a law, that, when I would do good, **evil is present with me.**

- So if it was not for Jesus, who sent the Holy Spirit to help us fight the battle of the flesh we would continue to live a life full of sin and wickedness.

But thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ who has saved us from our sins, and in our sin.

2. Therefore, to do evil is ever present with us.
3. This is why Jesus has continued to work in us, so that we can fight this battle in our warring members. So that we can triumph over that which is evil.
4. If it was not for Jesus we would be stuck in our sin. With nowhere to turn to get help.

Therefore if you look at **Ephesians 2 verse 8 and 9** we see that we are saved by faith alone, and that no of works.

Ephesians 2:8-9 King James Version (KJV)

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that **not of yourselves**: it is **the gift of God**:

⁹ **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

- But after that we are saved, we see that **Ephesians 2:10** follows this up with the verse saying.....

Ephesians 2:10 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁰ **For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.**

1. We are created in Jesus, in his image. We are created as a new creature to do good works.
 2. That means Jesus has created us to do that which is right. That which is good. That we should walk in them.
 3. That means Jesus is our maker. We are his workmanship. So he has made us, and looks after us to walk as God has ordained us to walk.
- ✓ So he is going to teach us how to live our lives in a more excellent way. So that we can benefit by being his new creation.
 - ✓ It's not that Jesus just leaves us to ourselves.
 - ✓ **No for whom God loves**, he chaseneth, and scourgeth. Or else we would not be his son.

Hebrews 12:6

For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Hebrews 12:7

If ye endure chastening, **God dealeth with you as with sons**; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

4. **So it's not just that God is going to save, you and leave you to your own devices.** No, he is going to follow through, to show you what is good and acceptable unto the Lord, and he is going to show you what is evil so that you can stay away from those things.

✚ **Thats why:** If you had to turn away from your sin to be saved, you would never be saved.

1. Works have a place, after you get saved. But they don't get you saved. And they don't keep you saved.
2. Because once you are saved by believing in Jesus, you are always saved. Nothing can separate you from the love of God.
3. You are sealed until the day of redemption by the Holy Ghost.
4. You have eternal life.
5. No one can pluck you out of his hand.

So..... when you look in Jonah 3:10. It says when God saw their works that they turned from their evil way. What was it all about.

Jonah3:9-10

9 Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not?

10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and **God repented of the evil,** that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

1. Here was a nation in a city, the city of Nineveh, who had rebelled against God, and it was Jonah's task to minister and preach to them, and based on the outcome of Jonah's preaching God would make a decision as to whether to save them or utterly destroy them.
 2. And in verse 9 we see God's anger towards Nineveh.
 3. But in verse 10 we see a change in the people's hearts, as they turned from their evil ways. God saw their works that they had turned from every evil way.
- ✓ So here we can see that God classifies turning from you evil ways.....as works.
 - ✓ He calls the fact of that they turned form their evil ways "works".

So if you had to turn from your evil ways, and God classifies that as works, then how could you get saved if God calls that turning from your evil ways "works"?

- ✓ When we know that from previous verses in Ephesians 2:8-9, that is takes faith in Jesus. By believing in Jesus to get saved and not works.
- ✓ So notice in this passage that it is God who repents. **Which further proves that repentance is not salvation,** but simply a word reflecting a change of mind or decision or attitude towards an outcome.
- ✓ In fact in the bible God repents more than man in any of the verses used about repentance in the bible. (105 times the word is used).

1. So where the confusion comes in is when people take the word repent and automatically add on the words**of your sins**.
2. Whereas.....we are to repent.....and it is something that we should do on a daily basis.....but it is not to get saved.
3. But repenting of our sin is something that we should do in the sight of God.....because God wants us to “turn away from our sins”.
4. **But repenting of our sin does not get us saved.**

✚ Repenting of our sin is part of what we should be doing after we get saved.....just like doing works is part of what we should be doing after we get saved.

✚ **But when repentance is mixed up with salvation, then that is a false doctrine.** Because then we are tampering with the word of God, and making works necessary for salvation.

1. **Turning from your evil way is work.** It takes work to turn away from doing evil and to do that which is good, and to lead a Godly life.
2. Or does it automatically come naturally to you. Do you just get saved and automatically just do that which is good and holy and righteous.
3. **No** , it takes work to do that. It takes work to get right with God, it takes work to get holy before God. It takes work to read the bible and to know what God expects of you and me.
4. It does not come naturally to us.
5. We have to daily die to self. And daily to take up the cross. So it is hard work.

But people will take for example Acts 3:19.

¹⁹ Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

They will take this verse where it says.....¹⁹ **Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out,**

1. But has the scripture just been talking about in the context that you have to repent of your sins to be saved. **No**.
2. If you look at the context of what he has just been talking about. He has been saying that they desired a murderer (Barabbas) over Jesus.

Acts3: ¹⁴ But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; ¹⁵ And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

3. You see it was not repentance from sin. But they needed to turn to Jesus instead of themselves as when they chose Barabbas.
4. **They needed to choose Jesus.** It would be Jesus by faith in Jesus that would save them, and blot out all their sin.
5. So this was not repenting of your sin like people like to assume.

- ❖ But God wants us to turn from sin. He wants us to turn from our iniquities. Not that he can save us, but that we can live a better and more prosperous and good life despite of that.
- ❖ So that we can be blessed.
- ✓ Turning from our sins, is not just because God says we must. But it is a blessing for our own good. Because Jesus is watching out for us.
- ✓ It is to our own advantage and to our benefit if we would turn from sin.

Hebrews 12:6

For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Hebrews 12:7

If ye endure chastening, **God dealeth with you as with sons**; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

But it does not end there in the chapter.....

⁸ But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

⁹ Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

¹⁰ For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; **but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.**

- ✓ So according to Hebrews God is wanting us to live a holy and righteous life **for our profit, and that we might be partakers of his holiness.**
- ✓ That we might be partakers of his holiness, meaning that we will become more and more like Jesus.

So the result from turning from your sin, does not lead to salvation. But what it does after you have been saved, is that Jesus will bless you, and help you turn away from your iniquities.

- ✓ We benefit, and end up living a better life for ourselves as a result.

CLOSE IN PRAYER.....