

Pastor Ron Case
4/15/12

“The Remedy”

“Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.” (Revelation 2:5)

Repent – (Metanoeo) To think differently, afterwards, feel sorrow

First things First

Zechariah 1:3 – “Therefore say to them, Thus declares the LORD of hosts: ‘Return to me, says the LORD of hosts, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts.”

Matthew 4:17 – “From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Heart Monitor

Hebrews 3:12-14 – (12) “Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. (13) But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today,’ that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. (14) For we share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.”

To Whom much is given...

2 Chronicles 36:11-13, 16 – (11) “Zedekiah was twenty-one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. (12) He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. He did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the LORD. (13) He also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God. He stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the LORD, the God of Israel. (16) But they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words and scoffing at his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD rose against his people, until there was no remedy.”

Matthew 12:41 – “The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.”

Response:

(1) Key Point: Relentless Repentance keeps the Heart Right

“Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!” (Psalm 139:23-24)

(2) Get Examinations

“I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.” (Psalm 119:11)

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,” (Hebrews 10:24-26)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I subjecting myself to spiritual examination? (2 Cor. 13:5)

Is repentance near the top of my ‘to do list’?

Is my heart hardened in certain areas? What can I ask God to do about it? (Ezek. 36:26-29; Psalm 119:36; Acts 8:22-23)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)