

## CCC ROOTS P6

### REVEIW

#### 1. THE BIBLE TERM FOR "CHANGING YOUR MIND" IS REPENTANCE!

**Repentance means changing your mind.** I once believed this but, the world ways, now I am a follower of Christ, I have surrendered my life to Christ now I believe this, I once **thought** this way now I **think** this, I once **saw** it the worlds way and now I **see** it this way, I once had this **perspective** now I have God's **perspective**, I once **felt and thought** this now I **feel and think** this... That's repentance. Changing the way I think about something... and How do we do that... by accepting the way God thinks about something... What does God think about money? What does God think about sex? What does God think about life and death and love? What does God think about

crime, what does God think about work, or family or kids and that becomes our thinking, our belief, our standard of living our life, which is now surrender to God. Not my will be done but Your oh Lord

The world has a great word for repentance its called pyridine shifts and repentance is the ultimate pyridine shift... See when you repent you make a pyridine shift... I went from **darkness to light**, I went from **dope to hope**, from **sin to salvation**, from **hell to heaven**, from **no purpose in life to a life with meaning**, from **insignificant to significant**, from **worry to peace**, it was the greatest change I ever made in my life... But we also said last week that a lot of people think of repentance as taking castro oil. But it's not repentance is the greatest decision you can ever make in your life.

Repentance is the most positive change in the world.

When you repent, when you change your way of thinking to God way...you go from **darkness to light**, from **hopelessness to hope**, from **guilt to peace**, from a life **without God** to life **with God**, repentance is an incredible benefit. Let's listen to what Ezekiel had to say, *"I will teach you to respect me completely, and I will put a new way of thinking inside you. I will take out the stubborn hearts of stone from your bodies, and I will give you obedient hearts of flesh."* Ezekiel 36:26 (NCV) That's a paradigm shift, that's repentance to change your mind from the way you think to God's way of thinking. Repentance is at the deepest level of mind changing. Why, because it is at the level of beliefs, values.

**2. YOU DON'T CHANGE PEOPLE'S MINDS, THE APPLIED WORD OF GOD DOES.**

I can't change your mind... But the Holy Spirit can change your mind when you will allow it to apply the word of God into your life in a practical way.

Listen carefully here... there is a Word element and a Spiritual element... if it was all about knowledge, all about head knowledge, all about bible teaching for you to change your thinking which will change your feelings, which will change your actions. If that was the way for you to become Christ like then I would stand up here every Sunday and just teach, teach, teach. I would tell you to go to seminary. learn all you can about Systematic Theology. Why because if it was just about head knowledge and that would change your action, your beliefs, your values and then you will know and be able to a life surrender to Jesus Christ. But you can't why because there are two elements. The Word and the Spirit... It not just a matter of intellectual study,

it's not just the truth; it's not just knowing the doctrines.

You must be involved in having that relationship with God... God must be at work. There must be a Spirit element at work with in you and you will know it... Listen to these verses from God's word, the bible...

*"We speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths." 1 Cor. 2:13b (NLT)*

*"The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me; his word was on my tongue." 2 Sam. 23:2*

*"'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord." Zech. 4:6*

*"Our weapons have power from God that can destroy the enemy's strong places.*

Now what are the weapons that can destroy the enemy's strong places: To hear some Christian leaders and pastor's

in the world you would think it was to getting the right people elected into political office NOT, wrong answer... Here's the weapon, *We destroy people's arguments* what are we talking about here mind change, repentance, were talking about pyridine shift *We destroy people's arguments and every pretension that raises itself against the knowledge of God.* What it saying... It's spiritual warfare and it's mental, it's in the mind. Now here this next phrase it's great... *We capture every thought and make it give up and OBEY Christ.*" 2 Cor. 10:4-5 (NCV) this is the goal for your life... to capture every thought and make it give up and obey Christ. Example - I am having an adulteress affair and I think it is okay, I have same sex relationship and I think it is okay, I think it is okay to have sex outside of marriage, I think it is okay to lie, I think it is okay to gossip, I think it okay to not to tithe, I think it okay to be

self centered, I think it's okay to do my own thing, I think it's okay not serve the Lord here at Calvary.... You get the picture... Where is the enemy's strong hold with you... In our mind. He has you believing lies...

Let's make it personal say this with me:

**You don't change your mind, the applied word of God does.** You must apply His word into your life, into your thinking... God must be at work in you. How... You read God's word, the bible with the expectancy that God is there with you and is going to talk with you, show you His truth.

You come in here Sunday's desiring, waiting to hear God speak to you through the songs, the prayers, the message.

You go your small group, your CR group, your bible study, your boundaries group, your Tuesday night Next Step service. You go to them hungering for God to speak to

you, hungering Him to reveal to you, having a deep desire for Him to show you something that you can think upon and bring into your life to change your thinking towards Him, to change your belief and He will and when He does you replace your way, your thinking to His way,

### **3. CHANGING THE WAY I ACT IS THE FRUIT OF REPENTANCE.**

In other words it's the result... It's the fruit not the root. Technically repentance has nothing to do with behavioral change, your actions. Repentance is not changing the way you act. Repentance has to do with changing your mind, changing your thinking; and the result of that, the fruit of your repentance is that you will change the way you act, the way I talk, the way I feel. That's why John the Baptist said this, "*Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.*"

*Matt 3:8 (NIV)* He said I want your actions to back up the

change in your mind. The Apostle Paul said this, "*I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.*" Acts 26:20b (NIV)

Your change life, your deeds are not repentance they are the fruit of repentance. You don't start by looking for fruit in your life you start by the root, by changing the way you think... does that make sense. And listen without changing the way you think... to God's way of thinking you will **never produce** Jesus Like fruit.

#### **4. TO PRODUCE LASTING LIFE-CHANGE YOU MUST ENLIGHTEN YOUR MIND, ENGAGE YOUR EMOTION AND CHALLENGE YOUR WILL.**

**Every thing we have talked about in these messages so far comes down to 2 words: will you**

Will you change... Will you do this... This I do know it takes humility to be a great follower of Christ? Why,

because you must be willing to stand there and make the challenge to yourself: will I do this and then you wait, and you wait and you let the Holy Spirit do His work in your heart. So many people are afraid to ask of themselves this... But listen that's why you must have a church and be active in it... that's why God has given you me, your Sr. Pastor, so I can get into your face in a loving way, in a humble way and say to you from God, **will you**. will you, will you.

The bible says that the "*Fear of man will prove to be a snare.*" Prov. 29:25 (NIV) In other words the moment you start thinking of what other people will think about you... I'm in trouble. If you desire to be surrender to Christ, to be a follower of Christ and you also want to be popular in the world and live by the ways of this world... listen you will never accomplish God's purpose for your life. We talked about this Monday Night a little in the Men's Fellowship;

the key word we were starting to bring out and will be talking about next week is peculiar, the world should see you as peculiar, with your peculiar love, with your peculiar forgiveness, your peculiar life style, your peculiar way you look at sex, money, marriage, dating for your teens.

If you are a follower of Christ... It really doesn't matter what other people think about you... what matters is what God thinks about you... You have to be sensitive to other people's feelings yes... but listen they don't set your agenda God does ...

For those who are His followers, those who have surrendered their life to Christ it is we who are to question the lies of the world. And why I say that is look around at our culture... it is going to the dogs and I don't blame our politicians I blame the churches and pastors. I find it interesting with all the information out there about Jesus

Christ and God in the USA. We have more churches in America now than we ever have had and more people going to those churches than ever before. Yet our society is more coarse, more evil, more rotten in many ways than it has ever been.

Why is that... let me share this next scripture with you... God's word, the bible says, *"Where there is no word from God, people are uncontrolled..." Prov. 29:18 (NCV)*

You know what the world is looking for today. What the world is looking for is someone with an authoritative message spoken from a humble personality. The world is looking for those people who are surrender to Christ, the world is looking for followers of Jesus Christ. And when you get these two things together it has enormous power. What am I saying is when you begin to change your thinking and that change thinking begins producing fruit,

Jesus Christ like actions in a loving humble way but yet an authoritative way... The world will listen to those types of people... The bible is not given to us to teach us doctrine, to teach us knowledge... to beat other people over the head with it saying shame, shame, shame on you... The bible is given to change our lives.

So let me ask this question do you need to repent, do you need to change the way you think... Ask yourself right now, who am I living for, who am trying to please.

Now I will tell you this from personal experience, if you choose to change your mind and live your life for Christ. Listen carefully... you will be persecuted; you will be criticized from people around... You will be told you've gone too far with this Christ thing. Why, because people don't want you to change.

So who are you living to please today, your mom, your dad, your children, your friends, your co-workers?

Choose you this day, God is here right now and I say to you... choose you this day, tell your wife, your husband, your boy friend, your girlfriend, your friends, your co-workers. Tell them you will not be the same any more as you have been in the past... why, because you have chosen this day to repent and to serve the Lord, you have chosen to repent and will no longer be thinking as you use to think, which in time will change the way you feel towards your old way which will change the way you act upon the old ways in your life. You have chosen to repent today.

And to you godly men who are the spiritual leader of your house tell your house hold as for me and my house, my family we will serve the Lord!

People will say to you, I liked you when you were just nice and safe and just going to church and that's all... now you want to stop having premarital sex with me, you want to stop getting high and going out and parting with me. They will say what's happen to you and listen when they do there is no great compliment for someone who has repented and is now surrender to Christ then to have someone ask you what's happen to you... and they will... and when they do... tell them you have change your way of thinking to God's way of thinking at it is changing your life and it is bring great joy and peace into your life... and then tell them they can also be like you... and ask them would they like to surrender their life to Christ also: They will say no everything is okay with me and my family. As they leave and dad goes and gets out his porno and watches it, the wife takes all her medication to just exist in life, the

daughter has to go because she has her baby to take care of and is pregnant again by another father, the son is strong out on drugs and they say to you why would I want to change the way I think, why would I want to change the way I believe.

Let's bow our heads in prayer;

It's not enough just to understand the text. The bible says I am to teach you to do everything that Jesus has command us to do.

Would you say Lord: I am open to learn your way of thinking, I am willing to change, I am willing to repent, I am willing to turn. And I open my heart to you right now I want to be a follower of You. I want to today to surrender my life to Your way of thinking. I want Your rooted understanding that goes to the issues of my life change.  
AMEN and AMEN!