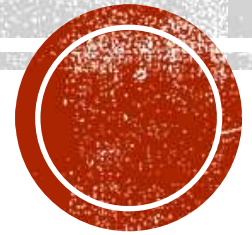


# STEPS OF REPENTANCE



# REPENTANCE

- Need to know how to deal with our sin, repent
  - Acknowledge our sin
  - Stop doing wrong
  - Begin to do what is right



# REPENTANCE

- **Definition:**
  - A change of mind
    - Greek: Metanoeo
    - Think differently or afterwards, i.e. reconsider (Strong)
    - Change one's mind or purposes (Vine)
  - Not simply regret or sorrow
    - Greek: Metamellomai
    - Not used of repenting from our sins
    - Used of Judas in Matt. 27



# ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

- Scripture full of people in sin who are confronted by it.
  - Vast majority don't listen
  - Noah
  - Jeremiah
- So often, response is to justify ourselves
  - Adam "The woman you gave to be with me..." (Gen. 3:12)
  - Eve "The serpent deceived me" (Gen. 3:13)
  - Aaron "You know the people, that they are set on evil" (Ex. 32:22) "This calf came out"
  - Saul (1 Sam. 15:20-24)



# ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

- Instead, we see the righteous acknowledging their sins
  - David: “I have sinned against The Lord (2 Sam. 12:13)
  - “For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.” (Psalm 51:3)
- Accepting responsibility for sin: accepting shame



# STOP DOING WRONG

- When confronted by sin, sometimes we sin even more
  - Try to block out shame and guilt
- In the Scriptures
  - Jewish Mob (Acts 7:51-54,57-58)
  - Felix (Acts 24:24-25)



# AMEND OUR LIFE

- Have acknowledged that we've sinned, stopped doing wrong
- Temptation to just give up
  - Good to feel guilt; but sometimes crushed by it
- Judas
  - So crushed by guilt, took his own life (Matt. 27:3-5)
  - Remorse is not enough for repentance



# AMEND OUR LIFE

- May feel like we're "supposed" to give up
  - Cain (Gen. 4:6-7)
  - "Sin lies at the door...but you should rule over it"
- Contrast with Paul
  - Persecuted the church (Acts 8:3; 9:1,13)
  - Would have been easy to give up
  - Instead, is able to put the past behind him





# CONCLUSION

- Not too late to repent, make your life right
- The longer we wait, the harder it will be

