

New Testament study of the word "repentance"

The study of the word "repent" is essential if we are going to fully explore the present-day presentation of the "gospel." Studies on "judge," "love" and "sin" also provide insight for understanding the articles, "[The Gospel According to Jesus](#)" and "[False Gospel - Exposed](#)."

I had said the next study would be on "forgiveness" but this one, being shorter, was completed first so here you have it. You will find it interesting how seldom the words "repentance" and "repent" were used in comparison to the other words we have studied. It does not necessarily diminish their significance but you will find that their use, within each context, does not fully support their usage in today's "gospel." Check out this study and you will see what I mean. Please use the comments tool if you have questions or insight on this study, or any other.

God bless you as you study His Word - in depth.

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### 1. Greek #3338

metamellomai (*met-am-el'-lom-ahee*) From G3326 and the middle of G3199

Definition: "to care afterwards, that is, regret"

Translated: "repent (self)"

### 2. Greek #3340

metanoēō (*met-an-o-eh'-o*) From G3326 and G3539

Definition: "to think differently or afterwards, that is, reconsider (morally to feel compunction)"

Translated: "repent"

### 3. Greek #278

ametamelētos (*am-et-am-el'-ay-tos*) From G1 (as a negative particle) and a presumed derivative of G3338.

Definition: "irrevocable"

Translated: "without repentance, not to be repented of"

#### 4. Greek #3341

metanoia (*met-an'-oy-ah*) From G3340

Definition: “(subjectively) compunction (for guilt, including reformation); by implication reversal (of [another’s] decision)”

Translated: “repentance”

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1. Greek #3338

metamellomai (*met-am-el'-lom-ahēe*) From G3326 and the middle of G3199

Definition: “to care afterwards, that is, regret”

Translated: “repent (self)”

- The word “repent (-ed)” was used 6 times in the “authorized” KJV. See bold words for its use in the old Revised version.

2 Corinthians 7:8: “For though I made you sorry with my epistle, I do not **regret** it, though I did **regret**: for I see that that epistle made you sorry, though but for a season.”

Hebrews 7:21: “(For they indeed have been priests without an oath; but he with an oath by him that saith of him, The Lord sware and will not **repent** himself, Thou art a priest for ever)”

Matthew 21:29, 32: “And he answered and said, I will not: but afterward he **repented** himself, and went. ...For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye saw it, did not even **repent** yourselves, that ye might believe.”

Matthew 27:3(&4): “Then Judas, which betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, **repented** himself, and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, I have sinned in that I betrayed innocent blood. But they said, What is that to us? See thou to it.”

2. Greek #3340

metanoēō (*met-an-o-eh'-o*) From G3326 and G3539

Definition: “to think differently or afterwards, that is, reconsider (morally to feel compunction)”

Translated: “repent”

- Various verb tenses of the word “*repent*” were used numerous times in the “authorized” KJV. See bold words for their use in the old Revised version.

Matthew 3: (1&2): “*And in those days cometh John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, saying, **Repent** ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*”

Matthew 4:17: “*From that time began Jesus to preach, and to say, **Repent** ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*”

Mark 1:15: “*And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent** ye, and believe in the gospel.*”

Mark 6:12: “*And they went out, and preached that men should **repent**.*”

Luke 13:3, 5: “*I tell you, Nay: but, except ye **repent**, ye shall all in like manner perish. ...I tell you, Nay: but, except ye **repent**, ye shall all likewise perish.*”

Luke 16: (29&) 30 (&31): “*But Abraham saith, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one go to them from the dead, they will **repent**. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, if one rise from the dead.*”

Luke 17:3-4: “*Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother sin, rebuke him; and if he **repent**, forgive him. And if he sin against thee seven times in the day, and seven times turn again to thee, saying, I **repent**; thou shalt forgive him.*”

Acts 2:38: “*And Peter said unto them, **Repent** ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*”

Acts 3:19: “***Repent** ye therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that so there may come seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord;*”

Acts 8:22: “***Repent** therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray the Lord if perhaps the thought of thy heart shall be forgiven thee.*”

Acts 17:30 (&31): “*The times of ignorance therefore God overlooked; but now he commandeth men that they all everywhere **repent**: insomuch as he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by the man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.*”

Acts 26:20: “*But declared both to them of Damascus first, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judaea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should **repent** and turn to God, doing [Greek: practicing] works worthy of repentance.*”

Revelation 2:5, 16, 21-22: “*Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and **repent**, and do the first works; or else I come to thee, and will move thy candlestick out of its place, except thou **repent**. ...**Repent** therefore; or else I come to thee quickly, and will make war against them with the sword of my mouth. ...And I gave her time that she*

should **repent**; and she willeth not to **repent** of her fornication. Behold, I do cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they **repent** of her works.”

Revelation 3:3, 19: “Remember therefore how thou hast received and didst hear, and keep it, and **repent**. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee. ...As many as I love, I reprove and chasten: be zealous therefore, and **repent**.”

Matthew 11:20-21: “Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they **repented** not: Woe unto thee, Chorazin! Woe unto thee, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon which were done in you, they would have **repented** long ago in sackcloth and ashes.”

Matthew 12:41: “The men of Nineveh shall stand up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they **repented** at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.”

Luke 10:13: “Woe unto thee, Chorazin! Woe unto thee, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works had been done in Tyre and Sidon which were done in you, they would have **repented**, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.”

Luke 11:32: “The men of Nineve shall stand up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they **repented** at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.”

2 Corinthians 12: (20 &) 21: “For I fear, lest by any means, when I come, I should find you not such as I would, and should myself be found of you such as ye would not: lest by any means there should be strife, jealousy, wraths, factions, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults: lest, when I come again, my God should humble me before you, and I should mourn for many of them that have sinned heretofore, and **repented** not of the uncleanness and fornication and lasciviousness which they committed.”

Revelation 9:20-21: “And the rest of mankind which were not killed with these plagues **repented** not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and the idols of gods, and of silver, and of brass, and of stone, and of wood: which can neither see, nor hear, nor walk: and they **repented** not of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.”

Revelation 16:9, 11: “And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of the God which hath the power over these plagues: and they **repented** not to give him glory. ...And they blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and they **repented** not of their works.”

Luke 15:7, 10: “I say unto you, that even so there shall be joy in heaven over one sinner that **repenteth**, more than over ninety and nine righteous persons, which need no repentance. ...Even so, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that **repenteth**.”

3. Greek #278

ametameleōs (*am-et-am-el'-ay-tos*) From G1 (as a negative particle) and a presumed derivative of G3338.

Definition: “**irrevocable**”

Translated: “without repentance, not to be repented of”

- See the bold words for their use in the old Revised version. The first verse has the same use in the “authorized” KJV, while the second one appears as “*not to be repented of*” in the revised version.

Romans 11:29: “For the gifts and the calling of God are **without repentance**.”

2 Corinthians 7:10: “For godly sorrow worketh repentance unto salvation, a repentance which **bringeth no regret**; but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”

4. Greek #3341

metanoia (*met-an'-oy-ah*) From G3340

Definition: “(subjectively) **compunction (for guilt, including reformation); by implication reversal (of [another’s] decision)**”

Translated: “repentance”

- The word “*repentance*” was used numerous times in the “authorized” KJV. See bold words for its use in the old Revised KJV.

Matthew 3:8 (&9), 11: “Bring forth therefore fruit worthy of **repentance**: and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. ...I indeed baptize you with water unto **repentance**: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:”

Matthew 9:13: “But go ye and learn what this meaneth, I desire mercy, and not sacrifice: for I come not to call the righteous, but sinners.” (“to repentance” was added by the revisers)

Mark 1:4: “John came, who baptized in the wilderness, and preached the baptism of **repentance** unto remission of sins.”

Mark 2:17: “And when Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of a physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” (again, the revisers added “to repentance.”)

Luke 3:3, 8: “And he came into all the region round about Jordan, preaching the baptism of **repentance** unto remission of sins; ...Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of **repentance**, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.”

Luke 5:32: “I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to **repentance**.”

Luke 15:7: “I say unto you, that even so there shall be joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine righteous persons, which need no **repentance**.”

Luke 24:47: “And that **repentance** and remission of sins should be preached in his name unto all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

Acts 5:31: “Him did God exalt with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give **repentance** to Israel, and remission of sins.”

Acts 11:18: “And when they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then to the Gentiles also hath God granted **repentance** unto life.”

Acts 13: (23&)24: “Of this man’s seed hath God according to promise brought unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus: when John had first preached before his coming the baptism of **repentance** to all the people of Israel.”

Acts 19:4: “And Paul said, John baptized with the baptism of **repentance**, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Jesus.”

Acts 20:21: “Testifying both to Jews, and to Greeks, **repentance** toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Acts 26:20: “But declared both to them of Damascus first, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judaea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, doing works worthy of **repentance**.”

Romans 2:4: “Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth to **repentance**?”

2 Corinthians 7:9-10: “Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye were made sorry unto **repentance**: for ye were made sorry after a godly sort, that ye might suffer loss by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh **repentance** unto salvation, a **repentance** which bringeth no regret: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”

2 Timothy 2:25(&26): “In meekness correcting them that oppose themselves; if peradventure God may give them **repentance** unto the knowledge of the truth; and they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by the Lord’s servant unto the will of God.” (Compare this last verse with other versions.)

Hebrews 6:1(&2), 6: “Wherefore let us cease to speak of the first principles of Christ, and press on unto perfection; not laying again a foundation of **repentance** from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the teaching of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of

*resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. ...And then fell away, it is impossible to renew them again unto **repentance**; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.”*

Hebrews 12:17: *“For ye know that even when he afterward desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of **repentance**, though he sought it diligently with tears.”*

2 Peter 3:9: *“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness; but is longsuffering to you-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to **repentance**.”*

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