

LESSON 4

REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS AND FAITH TOWARD GOD

Hebrews 6:1-2 “Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God...”

I. WHAT IS THE DOCTRINE OF REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS?

A. The turning from religious and/or man made laws, practices, and traditions that are given by men to draw mankind to God.

1. Colossians 2:8

“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”

B. What is repentance?

1. It is a change of mind or a turning from an entire lifestyle or way of life unto God and his way of life as taught in the Bible.

C. How can I recognize dead works?

1. 1 Timothy 3:5

“Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”

II. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT DEAD WORKS?

A. Titus 3:4-5

“But after that the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us...”

B. 1 Peter 1:18-19

“For as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ...”

C. See also: Matthew 15:1-6 and Mark 7:5-9

III. WHAT IS THE DOCTRINE OF FAITH TOWARD GOD?

A. It is the doctrine set forth by the word of God that teaches us that faith is a gift from God that enables us to believe him for our salvation.

1. Ephesians 2:8-9

“For by grace ye are saved through faith: and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works lest any man should boast.”

2. Romans 5:1

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:”

3. Galatians 3:26

“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”

B. Why must I have faith?

1. Because God is a faith God; without faith we cannot please Him.

2. Hebrews 11:6

“Without faith it is impossible to please God; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

IV. WHAT IS FAITH?

A. We get the best explanation of faith from the Bible.

1. Hebrews 11:1 (Living Bible)

“What is faith? It is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead.”

2. Hebrews 11:1 (Weymouth Translation)

“Now faith is a well grounded assurance of that which we hope for, and a conviction of the reality of things which we do not see.”

B. How do I get faith?

1. Romans 10:17

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

V. THEN THERE ARE NO WORKS I CAN PERFORM TO OBTAIN SALVATION?

A. There is nothing we can do but have faith toward God according to what is spoken in his word. It is only by believing in our heart and confessing with our mouth that we make Jesus Lord.

1. Romans 10:9

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

THE ONLY WAY TO GOD IS THROUGH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST. ALL OF OUR OWN WAYS TO GET TO THE FATHER MUST BE LAID ASIDE AND WE MUST LET GRACE THROUGH FAITH DO IT'S WORK.