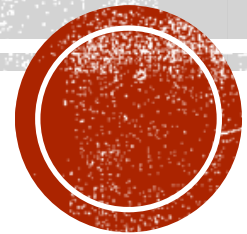


THE COMMON FAITH

To Titus, genuine child according to the common faith – Titus
1:4

Item 7 To Repent to God and
Believe in the Lord Jesus
Christ for Regeneration



ACTS 20:21

- Solemnly testifying both to Jews and to Greeks **repentance** unto God and **faith** in our Lord Jesus.

JOHN 3:3

- Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is **born anew**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.



Mark 1:15b Repent and believe in the gospel.

Acts 26:20 But declared both to those in Damascus first and in Jerusalem and throughout all the country of Judea and to the Gentiles that they should **repent and **turn** to God, doing works worthy of repentance.**

As used in Mark 1:15, the word “repent” literally means to think **differently** afterward, that is, to have a **change** of mind. To repent is to have a change of mind **with regret** for the past **and** with a **turn** for the future.

Today, when we come into God’s presence through prayer and are in front of Him, and we **really repent— What does this mean, to **really** repent?**

(you know, we are the people whom God made for **Himself**).

So, on the negative side, we repent not only of **sins** and **wrongdoings**, but we **also** repent of the **world** and its **corruption** that **usurp** and **corrupt us**; we also repent of our **God-forsaking** life in the past.

On the positive side, to repent is to turn **to** God in every way and in everything for fulfilling **His** purpose in making mankind. This is a “repentance **unto** God”; it is to “repent and turn **to** God.

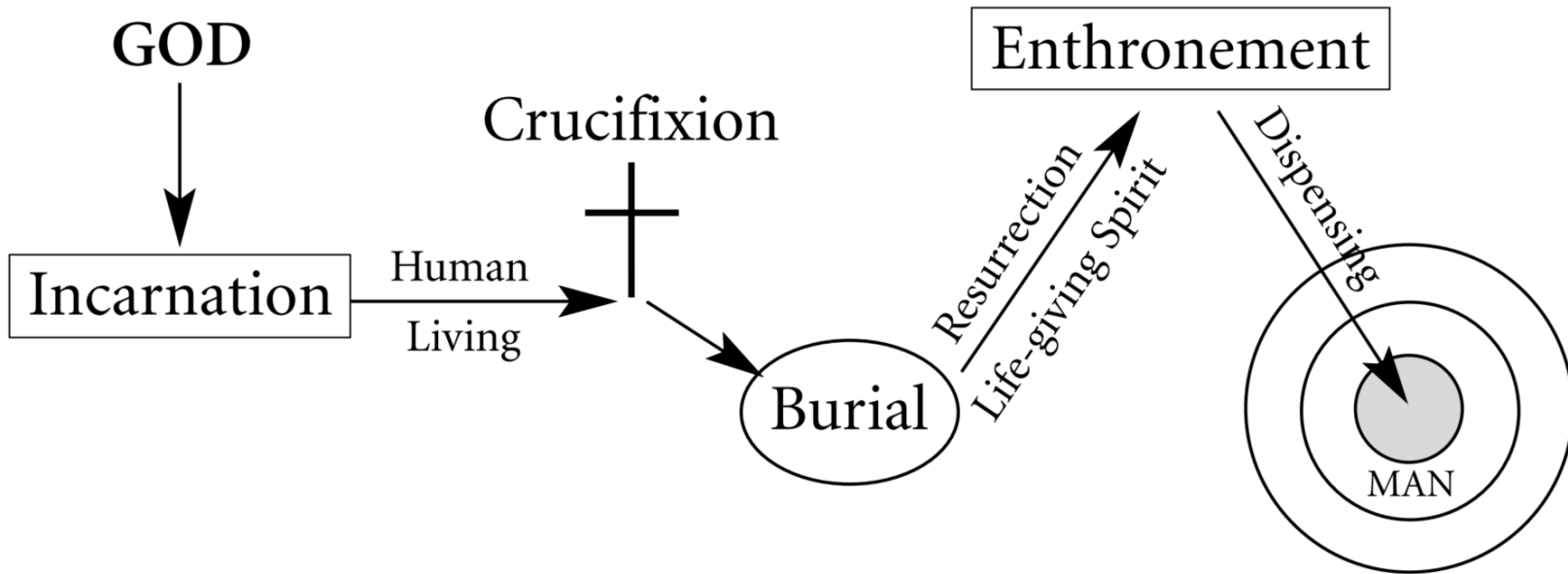
TO REPENT AND TURN TO GOD

Now we’re going to ask you to **consider** these very personal questions for yourself...

What are you living for?

Are you living for God?





GOD'S DISPENSING, WHICH IS... THE GOSPEL OF YOUR SALVATION

Here we see God and

- His Incarnation
- His Human Living
- Christ's Crucifixion and
- His Burial
- Then we see His Resurrection and becoming the Life-giving Spirit
- We also see His enthronement and
- His Dispensing Himself into us.

This is the gospel! Hallelujah!

Now let's focus on this dispensing.



John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes **into Him would not perish, but would **have** eternal life.**

John 1:12 But as many as **received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who **believe** into His name.**

These two verses show us that...

- 1) to believe in Him is to believe **into** Him
- 2) and to believe in Him is to **receive** Him into us.

Ephesians 1:13 In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise.

Thus, our faith in the Lord is through our hearing the word of the truth of the **gospel**.

TO BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL

Have you heard the word of the truth...

the gospel of your salvation?

Well, let's practice the following declaration together...

Lord, I believe into you!

Lord, come into me!



To be regenerated is to be born again. Jesus talked about this in the bible in John 3:3-6

Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he? Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Here is another verse that talks about regeneration

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has **regenerated** us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

From these verses, we can see that regeneration is to receive Christ, who is the life-giving Spirit, into us as our life. To receive this life, we need to repent to God and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

REGENERATION

To be regenerated, simply come to the Lord with an open and honest heart and say to Him:

Lord Jesus, I am a sinner.

I need You.

Thank You for dying for me.

Cleanse me from all my sins.

I believe You rose from the dead.

I receive You right now as my Savior and life.

Come into me! Fill me with Your life!

Lord Jesus, I give myself to You for Your purpose.



Ephesians 1:22-23 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church, which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

We need to point out this last, important point.

In His ascension, Christ is the **Head** of the Body of Christ, which is the church (not figuratively, as in the president or leader of the church, but **literally**).

You see, there is a Body in this universe which is the Body of the incarnated, crucified, resurrected, and ascended Christ.

Finally, let's see how this wonderful Head relates to us!

Romans 12:5 So we who are many are one Body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

By believing into Him and receiving Him into us to be our life, we, (yes, that's you and I!), become the many members, the parts, of this universal Body of Christ.

TO BECOME THE MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

Prayer: How awesome it is, dear Lord Jesus, that You are now our life, and that we are the members of Your very Body! – Amen!

