

# REPENTANCE AND FORGIVENESS



Lesson 10 for June 6, 2026

"If we confess  
our sins, He is  
faithful and just  
to forgive us our  
sins and to  
cleanse us from  
all  
unrighteousness"

(1 John 1:9, NKJV)



The Bible declares that “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23).

It also states that we are unable to avoid or remove our sin (Jer. 13:23; 2:22).

But God is willing to forgive our sin. No sin is so great or so horrendous that God is unwilling to forgive it (Isaiah 1:18).

There is only one condition: repentance.



### Repentance:

➡ Delaying repentance

➡ True repentance

➡ The call to repentance



### Forgiveness:

➡ The grace of forgiveness

➡ Dresses of forgiveness



# REPENTANCE



# DELAYING REPENTANCE

*"Jesus answered and said to her, Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things" (Luke 10:41 NKJV)*

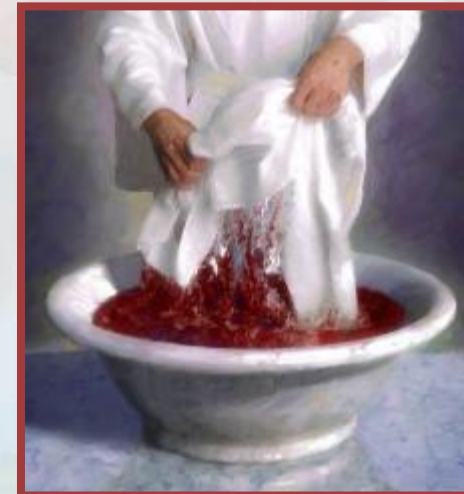
At Lazarus's house, Jesus spoke about important matters, vital for salvation. But Martha didn't listen. She didn't have time. There were so many things to do! (Lk. 10:40-41).



This also happens to us. When we have sinned, and the Holy Spirit calls us to repentance, Satan fills us with activity, worries, or any other distraction that prevents us from reflecting on our sinful situation and seeking forgiveness.



But God does not give up. He persists in his call (Ezek. 33:11). He compares our sins to filthy garments (Isa. 64:6). He offers an exchange: our filthy garments for his clean garments (Zech. 3:4), garments washed in the blood of Jesus (Rev. 7:14).



# TRUE REPENTANCE

**"Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds." (Hosea 6:1 NIV )**

**What is repentance? What is the difference between true repentance and feigned repentance? (2 Cor. 7:10)**

**When a sin brings immediate and unwanted consequences, regret arises. It's a shame because what we did didn't turn out well. If there hadn't been negative consequences, we wouldn't feel sadness for our actions. This is NOT true repentance.**

**When the very fact of having sinned is what causes us sadness, and a deep desire to be forgiven (whether or not there have been negative consequences), we are faced with true repentance.**

**When we sin, the Holy Spirit "torn us to pieces" and "injured" us with a deep sense of sorrow. If we respond with true repentance, God heals us, forgiving our sins (Hos. 6:1 NIV).**



# THE CALL TO REPENTANCE

**"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord." (Acts 3:19)**

**John the Baptist and Jesus began their ministry with the same message: "Repent" (Mt. 3:1-2; 4:17).**

**Why is repentance important? Because without it there is no forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; 3:19). How does this process occur?**

**Because of his goodness, God calls us to repentance (Rom. 2:4)**

**We answer His call**

**God forgives our sins by virtue of the blood that Jesus shed on the cross (Col. 1:13-14)**

**With sincere sorrow for the wrongs committed**

**With the honest decision to abandon sin**

**Note that repentance and forgiveness should always lead us to a reformation; to a change of attitude that leads us to stop sinning (Jn. 5:14).**



# FORGIVENESS



# THE GRACE OF FORGIVENESS

**"For the sake of your name, LORD, forgive my iniquity, though it is great" (Psalm 25:11)**



**There is nothing that forces God to forgive us. There is nothing we can do to deserve that forgiveness. God grants us forgiveness by grace; by his infinite love. He forgives because he is "good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy" (Psalm 86:5; see Exodus 34:6-7).**

**His love led him to give himself up on the cross, and pay the debt of sin that we cannot pay (Eph. 2:4-5).**



**When we bring our sins to the foot of the cross, Jesus frees us from the burden that weighs us down (Heb. 12:1-2)**



# THE GRACE OF FORGIVENESS

"For the sake of your name, LORD, forgive my iniquity, though it is great"  
(Psalm 25:11)

What is the relationship between sin and grace?

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SIN AND GRACE

Romans 5:8

"while we were still sinners"

"Christ died for us"

Romans 5:20

"where sin abounded"

"grace abounded"

Romans 5:21

"sin reigned in death"

"grace might reign... to eternal life"

Romans 6:23

"the wages of sin is death"

"the gift of God is eternal life"



# DRESSES OF FORGIVENESS

**"He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless." (Matthew 22:12)**

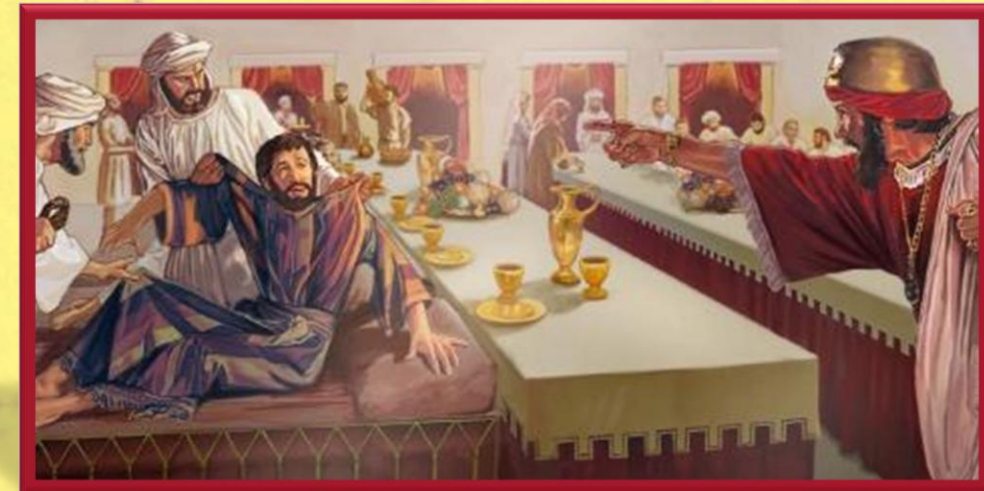
The Church of God—and therefore each of its members—is clothed in “fine linen, clean and bright” and “not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing” (Rev. 19:8; Eph. 5:27).

This fine linen is a symbol of “the righteous acts of the saints” (Rev. 19:8b). But this righteousness is not their own; it has been given to them by Christ (Rev. 7:14).



When Adam and Eve sinned, they covered their nakedness with their own works. But they still considered themselves naked before God (Gen. 3:7-10). The clothing God provided was a symbol of the “wedding garment” Christ gives us: his perfect righteousness that blots out our sins (Gen. 3:21; Ps. 51:7-10).

No one will go to Heaven without that garment (Mt. 22:1-14).



**“He who would become a child of God must receive the truth that repentance and forgiveness are to be obtained through nothing less than the atonement of Christ. Assured of this the sinner must put forth an effort in harmony with the work done for him, and with unwearied entreaty he must supplicate the throne of grace, that the renovating power of God may come into his soul. Christ pardons none but the penitent, but whom He pardons He first makes penitent. The provision made is complete, and the eternal righteousness of Christ is placed to the account of every believing soul. The costly, spotless robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has been provided for the repenting, believing sinner.”**