

Matthew Handout Week Six

Chap 1-

Chap 2-

Chap 3-

Setting/What's on everyone's mind:

Mal.4:5 "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse."

Lk.1: 14 You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice over his birth. For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while still in his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. And it is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of fathers back to their children, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

1 Kgs. 1:7 Then he (Ahaziah) said to the messengers, "What did the man look like, who came up to meet you and spoke these words to you?" And they said to him, "He was a hairy man with a leather belt worn around his waist." And he said, "It is Elijah the Tishbite."

Chapter 3

1. Now in those days (it's been about 27-28 years since the magi thing. 26/27 AD) **John the Baptist** (immersion) **came, preaching** (heralding) **in the wilderness of Judea, saying, 2 "Repent** (be repenting), **for the kingdom of the heavens has come near."**

3 For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said,
"The voice of one calling out in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way of the Lord, Make His paths straight!'"

Every ravine will be filled, and every mountain and hill will be brought low; the crooked will become straight, and the rough roads smooth; and all flesh will see the salvation of God."

4 Now John himself had a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 At that time Jerusalem was going out to him, and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan; 6 and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins....

11 "As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

John-

*Historical foreshadowing: the look, the message, the politics, the death threat, the means, the doubt

*Location of ministry:

Turn or Burn! Is it wrong? What is your relationship to it?

We need John's sermon now and always

Now—

Acts 11:1 Now the apostles and the brethren who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God...28 When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the *repentance that leads to life.*"

Always—

Repent

Mt.4:17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.

Acts 2:38 Peter replied, Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.

Acts 20:21 I(Paul) have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

Rev. 2,3 Jesus to the all the churches of Ephesus, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, & Laodicea...Repent!

Acts 17:30 In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent.

Who is it for?

Lk. 5:32 I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.

What it is not: *Not* mere recognition of sin

What it is: A change of mind that issues in

Lam. 3:40 Let us examine and probe our ways, and let us return to the LORD.

How to do it

-Mind **6 and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins.**

Exomolgeo: Fully agree with and openly profess. Notice the setting. It is _____

Why? 1) 2)

3) 4)

-Heart

Arriving at an emotional distaste

Be sorry for the right thing

Hate the sin, not yourself. Ps. 51

2 Cor. 7:9-10 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, so that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death.

If you still feel bad after you have repented, you are missing something in the process.

Physical self-Definitive change

Why of repentance

-Because

-It is the first gift

Acts. 5:31 He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to *grant/bestow* repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

Rom. 2:4 Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the *kindness of God leads you* to repentance?

2 Tim.2:25 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,

-It helps usher the kingdom of the heavens into our lives

Repent, for the kingdom of heavens has come near.

What is the kingdom of the heavens?

The origin

Gen. 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... 26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

Ps. 103:19 The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all.

What does it mean to have the kingdom of the heavens come to us?

It means that God comes to rule and reign in our heart and mind and body and soul and spirit. Our things are His. Our desires begin to line up with His. Our words and deeds become conformed to His. We come to understand that though we live in this physical world, our reality of God's presence, His will, His desires are what comes to pervade our very existence more and more such that our minds and hearts are set on the things above and not on earthly things, Col. 3:2. This is not slavish servitude to a despot. Ushering in the kingdom of heaven brings peace and security and ultimate freedom. We don't lose ourselves. We don't become subsumed under His person. We become everything we were made to be.

Kingdom implies other people

Kingdom is cosmic. Power is not from earth

Kingdom is now. How? Our lives/our churches

Kingdom is future.

Acts. 1:10 They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven.

Rev. 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have

passed away.” And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ...

Dan. 7:12 “I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven

One like a Son of Man was coming, and He came up to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. “And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom,

that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed.

What purpose does repentance play?

Mat.3:3 For he is the one spoken of through the prophet Isaiah, who said:

A voice of one crying out in the wilderness: *Prepare the way for the Lord; make His paths straight!*

Ruts and roadblocks

What are they in your life?

What’s up with immersion in water? Baptism

-Symbolic

-Threshold marker

-John’s baptism was temporary. Acts 18,19

Our baptism

-Sacramentally

Rom. 6: What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin.

Why do we repeat communion but not baptism?

-Symbolizes

1 Cor. 12:13 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

*Baptism assumes

Is baptism necessary for salvation?

But

If we don't repeat baptism, why do we still have to repeat repentance and ask for forgiveness?
Either we are forgiven or we aren't!

-Repentance restores the intimacy we damage.

Christ's death and resurrection provide _____ forgiveness.

Repentance enables _____ forgiveness and

Rev. 3:19 Those *whom I love*, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous *and repent*. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with Me.

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

Isa. 40:1 Comfort, O comfort My people," says your God. "Speak kindly to Jerusalem; And call out to her, that her warfare has ended, that her iniquity has been removed, That she has received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins." A voice is calling,
"Clear the way for the LORD..."

Discussion

1. Read these verses. What else does repentance do?

Prov. 1:23 Repent at my rebuke! Then I will pour out my thoughts to you, I will make known to you my teachings.

LK. 15:10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

2. Do you think the devil likes or hates repentance?

How is repentance an act of spiritual warfare?