Lighthouse

Repentance & the Coming King

I. THE GOOD, THE BAD, & THE BEAUTIFUL

- **A.** The Beautiful End Game: Yeshua is returning for a spotless bride; this purity will be worked out in the midst of suffering, challenge, and difficulty; just like with Yeshua, our suffering comes before our crown 25Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:25-27
- **B.** The Bad: Repent & Reproof: seen negatively because it brings to light that we need to change. Yah's reproof and correction is not initially enjoyable but works good in our lives
 - 1. Our Nation is in a Bad Place
 - 2. We as Believers are to be the Solution
 - If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and <u>turn</u> <u>from their wicked ways</u>, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14
 - 3. <u>Solemn Assemblies</u> are Yah's Remedy when there is no solution (corporate repentance) [Joel 2:12-17]
 - a. The Return is a Solemn Assembly during the days of awe of the fall festivals on Saturday September 26th from 9am-9pm in Washington DC. Can livestream it at www.thereturn.org.

C. The Good

- 1. <u>Times of Refreshing</u>
- 19Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, 20 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, 21 whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. Acts 3:19-20
- 2. Repentance is the Doorway start with this. Why? because he loves us and wants us free
- 3. <u>Leads to Divine Intimacy</u>: communion with Yah and others comes on the heels of repentance

II. THOUGHTS ON REPENTANCE

A. Repentance is the Entry Point of the Kingdom: of the kingdom

- 14Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

 Mark 1:14-15
- 3"Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:3
- **B. Repentance is a Continuing Kingdom Process:** "Spiritual maturity should be expressed by more holiness, less sin, but <u>not</u> by less repentance. As we grow in holiness, our awareness and sensitivity to sin increases. The Holy Spirit sheds more light in our souls, and we see sins which we didn't see before or which we ignored. We feel the gravity of sins which may have previously seemed small or insignificant. Paradoxically, the less we sin, the more we repent." Gil Afriat
 - 6If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.
 - 8If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us. 1 John 1:6-10
- C. Repentance Has as Its Foundation the Love of Yah: As Believers, repentance has as its foundation the fundamental truth that we are dearly beloved by our Abba. Yeshua went to the cross to purchase us for Himself because of His great love for us. Repentance is therefore not a groveling *end* but a

liberating *means* of removing things that get in the way of the greatest *end* of experiencing more of Yah's love and giving Him more of our wholehearted love in response. If followed biblically, it is therefore not a diminishing activity but an empowering one.

D. No to Condemnation but Yes to Conviction: There is no condemnation for those who are in Yeshua, but yes there certainly is conviction, repentance, and correction from our Lord

1There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:1-2

- 1. Satan Brings Condemnation: I am a mistake; I'm so bad; there's no hope for me.
- 2. <u>The Spirit of God Brings Conviction</u>: Conviction is specific and has as its goal, repentance and fellowship with God.

E. Repentance Takes Work

1. Worldly Desires Wage War

Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. 1 Peter 2:11 (NLT)

2. Putting to Death the Deeds of the Flesh

For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. Romans 8:13

- 3. <u>Yah has Superior Pleasures</u> (Psalm 16:11) we wage war against those inferior pleasures that cannot satisfy by connecting with the Spirit and Yah's superior pleasures
- **F. Yeshua's Correction:** Yeshua in His words to the 7 Congregations in Revelation 2 & 3 had words of reproof for 5 of the 7 congregations. Who are we to think that He would not at times have words of reproof or correction for us?

G. Yah's Discipline

"My child, don't make light of YHWH's discipline, and don't give up when He corrects you.

6For YHWH disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child."

- 7As you endure this divine discipline, remember that God is treating you as his own children. Who ever heard of a child who is never disciplined by its father? 8If God doesn't discipline you as he does all of His children, it means that you are illegitimate and are not really His children at all. 9Since we respected our earthly fathers who disciplined us, shouldn't we submit even more to the discipline of the Father of our spirits, and live forever?
- 10For our earthly fathers disciplined us for a few years, doing the best they knew how. But God's discipline is always good for us, so that we might share in His holiness. 11No discipline is enjoyable while it is happening—it's painful! But afterward there will be a peaceful harvest of right living for those who are trained in this way.
- 12So take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. 13Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but become strong. Hebrews 12:4-13

III. JUST DO IT

A. Important Foundations

- 1. <u>He Loves Us</u>: He loves us and paid the price; gives us eternal life; riches & pleasures; have a laboratory to prove our love
- 2. <u>Divine Connection</u>: He wants us to connect with Him (John 15:1-10)
 - a. Abide talk to Me
 - b. A daily, private, personal time is crucial for our walk
 - i. Can supplement Yah time on the run but important to have set-apart sacred time; like with a spouse
- 3. Come to Him in Our Weakness: We can come boldly to Him in our weakness and sin
- 14Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. 15For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses,

but was in all *points* tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:14-16

4. Be Zealous & Repent

Yeshua: 19I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference. 20"Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. 21Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne. Revelation 3:19-21

B. A Repentance Action Plan

- 1. <u>Loving Him is the Goal</u>: loving Him with our everything is the goal; He wants to bring the first commandment into first place in our lives; we fall short of this—thus we have need of repentance as a means towards that end
- 2. <u>Meditate on God's Love for You</u>. From that foundation we can pray for a greater measure of the fear of YHWH (which is the realization that there's no such thing as a secret—He sees and knows everything)
- 3. <u>Obvious Things to Repent Of</u>: For some there are some obvious things that are in your life that you need to repent of. Some presently have significant emotional traffic & bondage He wants you free; it's hindering your relationship with Him
- 4. <u>Hidden Things to Repent Of</u>: Ask the Spirit to Search Your Heart: Spirit of God, what is there in my life that is hindering me loving You with my everything?
- 5. <u>Resistant Things to Repent Of (Break Up Your Fallow Ground)</u>: this takes energy, time, and effort on our part
- I said, 'Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek YHWH, that he may come and shower righteousness upon you.' Hosea 10:12 (Jeremiah 4:3 too)
- C. We Can't Work It Up: We can't work up godly sorrow and heartfelt repentance, but we can draw near to Yah, acknowledge where we are not like You, and ask You to help us to have godly thoughts, words, actions.
 - 1. <u>Start Messed Up</u>: I take my cold, cold heart; I take my unrenewed mind; I take Your Word in my hand; and then I give You time to come and melt me. Misty Edwards
- **D.** We Can Own What We See: We specifically name our sin and speak it out (don't just think it in our heads), repent of it, thank Yeshua for His sacrifice and blood that is able to cleanse us, commit to leave those actions (or inactions) behind, and ask for His help.
 - 1. <u>3 Primary Categories</u>: our heart (thoughts), words, and actions
 - 2. The Word shows us God's standard
 - 3. <u>The Sermon on the Mount</u> (Matthew 5-7) is a good place to start to prayerfully read through to bring divine clarity for needed repentance
- E. Involving Others: Where our sins have involved others, we will need to go to them and repent as well.

IV. TOOLS

A. Seven Points of Obedience for Empowered Christians by Dr. Gregory Frizzell

- 1. Lord Yeshua, You are worthy of my deepest love and continual worship. I confess and repent of any ways my first love passion, service or worship have become lukewarm, routine or ritual. By Your grace and Spirit, I covenant to love You with all my heart, soul, mind and strength. I will faithfully worship and serve You through my church. (Matthew 15:8, 22:37; John 4:23-24; Ephesians 5:18; Hebrews 10:25, 13:15; Revelation 2:1-4, 3:15-19)
- 2. Blessed Lord, thank You for grace to live daily in Your closeness, fullness and power. I confess and repent of any neglect in personal prayer, Scripture reading or Holy Spirit empowerment. By Your grace and Spirit, I will spend quality time in Your word and prayer for close listening to Your voice. (Psalm 119:11; Proverbs 11:30; John 8:31-32, 15:4-16, 17:3; Ephesians 5:18; James 5:16-18)
- 3. God because You are holy, I desire to revere You in ever-deeper holiness. I confess and repent of any neglect of daily love and spiritual cleansing, moral purity, godly relationships and denying self. By Your grace and Spirit, I commit to deep daily cleansing, ongoing repentance and full yielding to Christ's

- Lordship. I covenant to grow as a disciple and a discipler of others. (Leviticus 10:3; 2 Chronicles 7:14; Ecclesiastes 12:13; Matthew 16:24; John 14:15; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 12:14; 1 Peter 1:6, 4:17)
- 4. Lord Yeshua, thank You for grace to love and seek reconciliation toward all. I confess and forsake any ignoring of damaged or inappropriate relationships in my present and past. I covenant to fully forgive all who have offended me and seek forgiveness from all I have offended. By Your grace and Spirit, I will seek to walk in deep love and unity with my family, friends and all I encounter in daily life. (John 13:34-35; Matthew 5:23-24, 6:14-15, 17:20-22, 18:35; Hebrews 12:14; 1 John 4:7-11)
- 5. Lord God, thank You for the power to build my family and relationships on the rock of Messiah. I confess and forsake any failure to read Scripture and pray with and for my family. By Your grace and Spirit, we will regularly pray together and abide in your word. (If single,) I will pray regularly with a godly growth and accountability partner.) (Matthew 5:24, 21:18; Ephesians 5:24-6:4; 1 Peter 3:7)
- 6. Father God, I praise You for the power and privilege of being a witness for Yeshua. I confess and repent of any failure to pray for global missions and lost souls. I repent of any negligence in sharing my faith. By Your grace and Spirit, I covenant to pray daily for the lost and witness to the gospel of Christ. I will boldly live out and proclaim the love and fear of the Lord. (Habakkuk 2:14; Matthew 28:18-19; Mark 8:38; Acts 1:8)
- 7. Lord Yeshua, I praise You for Your power to sweep the world in revival and spiritual awakening. I confess and repent of any failure to pray for a revived holy Church, spiritual awakening and God's glory to cover the earth. By Your grace and Spirit, I will daily pray for revival and spiritual awakening, for persecuted believers and for salvation to sweep Israel and the Middle East. (Psalm 85:6-7; Joel 2:28; Habakkuk 2:14; Malachi 3:1-4: Hebrews 13:1-3; Psalm 122:6)

B. Bill Gothard's "Twelve Evidences that we have lost our 'first love' for the Lord"

- 1. When my delight in the Lord is no longer as great as my delight in someone else, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." Mark 12:30.
- 2. When my soul does not long for times of rich fellowship in God's word or in prayer, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." Mark 12:30, Psalms 42:1.
- 3. When my thoughts during leisure moments do not reflect upon the Lord, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." Mark 12:30, Psalms 10:4.
- 4. When I claim to be "only human" and easily give in to those things I know displease the Lord, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." Mark 12:30, John 15:10, John 14:15.
- 5. When I do not willingly and cheerfully give to God's work or to the needs of others, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." 1 John 3:16-17.
- 6. When I cease to treat every Christian brother as I would the Lord, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." Matthew 25:40, John 13:34.
- 7. When I view the commands of Christ as restrictions to my happiness rather than expressions of His love, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." John 14:21.
- 8. When I inwardly strive for the acclaim of this world rather than the approval of the Lord, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." 1 John 2:15, John 15:19.
- 9. When I fail to make Christ or His words known because I fear rejection, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." John 15:20.
- 10. When I refuse to give up an activity which I know is offending a weaker brother, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." Romans 14:15.
- 11. When I become complacent to sinful conditions around me, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." Matthew 24:12.
- 12. When I am unable to forgive another for offending me, I have lost my "FIRST LOVE." 1 John 4:20.