A Case for Repentance.

Catchup.

Last week we spoke about, “the fast that God wants”

Isaiah 58:6-11 New King James Version (NKJV)

6 “Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the [a]heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are [b]cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh? 8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. 9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’ “If you take away the yoke from your midst, The [c]pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, 10 If you extend your soul to the hungry And satisfy the afflicted soul, Then your light shall dawn in the darkness, And your [d]darkness shall be as the noonday. 11 The Lord will guide you continually, And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

We spoke about how Humanism, and Pragmatism has crept into humanity, the church, and even into how we present the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We Spoke of how our priorities reflect this through the intents of our hearts. Some lead people to the Lord for reasons such as self-fulfillment, obligation, or for a means to find happiness in life. Others judge Godliness through Gain and Success, supposing that Gain is Godliness.

I am reminded of the, and the **Persian king of Xerxes,** who counted himself Divine and fought the great Spartan king Leonidas. **Or Caligula the 17th Roman Caesar who thought himself Divine which lead to the first fulfillment of Daniel’s**  12:11. This incited the first Jewish rebellion that eventually ended in the total destruction of the Temple.

Later Constantine in 324 AD merged Christianity with the Roman empire and called himself Both Caesar—Emperor and High Priest. This lead to 2 downfalls 1 The Dark Ages, that ended in the Catholic revolution with Martin Luther, and European kings proclaiming that they were God’s chosen King thus proceeding down every whim and calling it ‘Gods Will”.

Lastly we spoke of how the true meaning of the heart was to “Care”, First, that we should let our motivation be that the Lord deserves to receive the rewards of his sufferings, and Secondly, that we Care about others. Indeed, Jesus said it, Love the Lord thy God, and Love your neighbor.

Main Texts: Acts 17:29-31

29 Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising.

He is saying God is not a statue or some work of art produced by man. (Man creates a God to justify his Humanistic and Pragmatic efforts).

30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked**, but now commands all men everywhere to repent**, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead." NKJV

Joel 2:12-27 New King James Version (NKJV) A Call to Repentance

12 “Now, therefore,” says the Lord, “Turn to Me with all your heart, With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.”

**Joel who knows The Lord Continues.**

13 So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the Lord your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents (Repents) from doing harm.

14 Who knows if He will turn and relent, And leave a blessing behind Him.

Websters

repent verb re·​pent | \ ri-ˈpent \vrepented; repenting; repents Definition of repent (Entry 1 of 2)

**intransitive verb**

1: to turn from sin and dedicate oneself to the amendment of one's life

2a: to feel regret or contrition

b: to change one's mind

**transitive verb**

1: to cause to feel regret or contrition

2: to feel sorrow, regret, or contrition for

repent adjective re·​pent | \ ˈrē-pənt \ Definition of repent (Entry 2 of 2) : *CREEPING, PROSTRATE*

Theologically. What does it mean?

**In the old it is translated from 2 different Hebrew words,** and in the new **NT it comes from 2 different Greek words** although technically those found in Revelation would be translated from Aramaic.

**Revelation… In the Aramaic, 'return or convert from error'.**

**5162**

Mostly 5162 appears 108 times in the OT. Out of whish about 40 times it is translated as repent.

OT:5162 nacham (**naw-kham'**); a primitive root; properly, to sigh, i.e. breathe strongly; by implication, to be sorry, i.e. (in a favorable sense) to pity, console or (reflexively) rue; or (unfavorably) to avenge (oneself):

KJV - comfort (self), ease [one'sself], repent (-eringself,-,).

**7725**

1 kings 8:47 7725 also ezek 14:6 Ezek Is the only one that says repent and turn.

NKJV

OT:7725 appears 1057 times.. Only 4 times is it translated as Repent. Of those four times three of them are in Ezek 14:6.

OT:7725 shuwb (**shoob**); a primitive root; to turn back (hence, away) transitively or intransitively, literally or figuratively (not necessarily with the idea of return to the starting point); generally, to retreat; often adverbial, again:

OT:7725

KJV - ([break, build, circumcise, dig, do anything, do evil, feed, lay down, lie down, lodge, make, rejoice, send, take, weep]) again, (cause to) answer (+again), in any case (wise), at all, averse, bring (again, back, home again), call [to mind], carry again (back), cease, certainly, come again (back), consider, continually, convert, deliver (again), deny, draw back, fetch home again, fro, get [oneself] (back) again, give (again), go again (back, home), [go] out, hinder, let, [see] more, needs, be past, pay, pervert, pull in again, put (again, up again), recall, recompense, recover, refresh, relieve, render (again), requite, rescue, restore, retrieve, (cause to, make to) return, reverse, reward, say nay, send back, set again, slide back, still, surely, t

Ezek 14:6

6 "Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Repent, turn away from your idols, and turn your faces away from all your abominations

This is the first time the word repent appears in the KJV Bible

1 Kings 8:47-51 Famous prayer of Solomon.

47 and if they have a change of heart in the land where they are held captive, and repent and plead with you in the land of their conquerors and say, 'We have sinned, we have done wrong, we have acted wickedly'; 48 and if they turn back to you with all their heart and soul in the land of their enemies who took them captive, and pray to you toward the land you gave their fathers, toward the city you have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name; 49 then from heaven, your dwelling place, hear their prayer and their plea, and uphold their cause. 50 And forgive your people, who have sinned against you; forgive all the offenses they have committed against you, and cause their conquerors to show them mercy; 51 for they are your people and your inheritance, whom you brought out of Egypt, out of that iron-smelting furnace. NIV

Nt

**3340**

3340, 34 times each time it is translated repent or some facsimile of repent.

NT:3340

NT:3340 metanoeo (**met-an-o-eh'-o**); from NT:3326 and NT:3539; to think differently or afterwards, i.e. reconsider (morally, feel compunction): 3326 always, 3539 using your mind to understand.

KJV - repent.

**3338**

NT:3338

NT:3338 metamellomai (**met-am-el'-lom-ahee**); from NT:3326 and the middle voice of NT:3199; to care afterwards, i.e. regret: 3326 always, 3199, care

KJV - repent (self).

Matthew 21:29 He answered and said, I will not: **but afterward he repented, and went.** KJV

Matthew 21:32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, **repented not afterward, that ye might believe him. KJV**

Matthew 27:3 Then Judas, which had betrayed him, **when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders**, KJV

2 Corinthians 7:8 For though I made you sorry with a letter**, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry**, though it were but for a season. KJV

Hebrews 7:21 (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, **The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:)** KJV

**Abomination desolation**

First fulfilled by Caligula who thought himself divine and put a statue in the temple

Under Tiberius there was quiet. Then at the command of Gaius Caesar to place a statue of him in the temple, (the Jews) took up arms instead. But Caesar's death put an end to the commotion. --- Tacitus, Histories 5.9 In 2 Thessalonians 2 Paul seems to imply that, after a rebellion, the "man of lawlessness" will have himself worshiped as a god in the Temple. Caligula and his proposed statue in the 40s AD seems to fit this description better than Titus' standards in

Second fulfilling event.

According to Roman historian Cassius Dio, after the Temple was destroyed in 70 AD the worship overseen by the High Priest ceased.[8] The Temple Mount was covered over with rubble and a pagan temple dedicated to Jupiter was built when Hadrian became Caesar (117 - 138 AD).[9][10] Hadrian installed on the mount two statues: one of Jupiter and another of himself; this was seen by the Jews as idolatry.

Desolation

OT:8074

OT:8074 shamem (shaw-mame'); a primitive root; to stun (or intransitively, grow numb), i.e. devastate or (figuratively) stupefy (both usually in a passive sense):

KJV - make amazed, be astonied, (be an) astonish (-ment), (be, bring into, unto, lay, lie, make) desolate (-ion, places), be destitute, destroy (self), (lay, lie, make) waste, wonder.

NT:2050 eremosis (er-ay'-mo-sis); from NT:2049; despoliation: KJV - desolation.

NT:2049 eremoo (er-ay-mo'-o); from NT:2048; to lay waste (literally or figuratively): KJV - (bring to, make) desolate (-ion), come to nought.

**Notice one of the Meanings of Desolation is to Grow Numb.**

 Abomination

OT:8251 shiqquwts (shik-koots'); or shiqquts (shik-koots'); from OT:8262**; disgusting, i.e. filthy; especially idolatrous** or (concretely) an idol:

KJV - abominable filth (idol, -ation), detestable (thing).

OT:8262 shaqats (shaw-kats'); a primitive root; to be filthy, i.e. (intensively) to loathe, pollute:

KJV - abhor, make abominable, have in abomination, **detest, utterly.**

NT:946 bdelugma (bdel'-oog-mah); from NT:948; a detestation, i.e. (specially) idolatry:

KJV - abomination.

NT:948 bdelusso (bdel-oos'-so); from a (presumed) derivative of bdeo (to stink); to be disgusted, i.e. (by implication) detest (especially of idolatry):

KJV - abhor, abominable.

The numbing of the Heart. In the words of the Never Ending Story The Nothingness that is left.

This clip is a great representation of the Devils plans for you,, Even the part of being lost in the land of Sadness, a place where you are no threat.

**Watch the Clip.**

**Matthew 16:3**

**And in the morning, It will be foul weather today: for the sky is red. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?**

**Lets Look at how God Feels about Repentance.**

**Case 1.**

**The case of the killing of everything by the Israelites.**

**Gen 15:12-16**

12 Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. 13 Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. 14 And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. 15 Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete." NKJV

**History of False Gods**

The Canaanite religion was extraordinarily base and degraded, their “sacred poles”(Asherah Poles) were symbols, giving rites at their “high places”. Involving:

Gross sexual excesses and depravity. (Ex 23:24; 34:12, 13; Nu 33:52; De 7:5)

Involving sodomy, and bestiality were part of ‘the way of the land of Canaan’

Magic, spellbinding, spiritism, and sacrifice of their children by fire.—De 18:9-12.

**Baal** was the most prominent of the deities worshiped by the Canaanites. (Jg 2:12, 13; compare Jg 6:25-32; 1Ki 16:30-32.)

And was believed to be the Devil himself.

The Canaanite goddesses **Ashtoreth** (Jg 2:13; 10:6; 1Sa 7:3, 4),

**Asherah, and Anath** are presented in an Egyptian text as both mother-goddesses and as sacred prostitutes who, paradoxically, remain ever-virgin (literally, “the great goddesses who conceive but do not bear”). Giving license for sex much like todays efforts. a consort of Baal, the sun-god (Judges 3:7, 6:28, 10:6; 1 Samuel 7:4, 12:10). Asherah was also worshiped as the goddess of love and war and was sometimes linked with Anath, another Canaanite goddess.

Their worship involved with the services of temple prostitutes who symbolized sexual lust, sadistic violence and warfare.

**Anath, also spelled Anat**, chief West Semitic goddess of love and war, the sister and helpmate of the god Baal.

Considered a beautiful young girl, she was often designated “the Virgin” in ancient texts.

Anath is depicted as decorating herself with suspended heads and body parts of those she slaughtered. The figurines of the Ashtoreth is represented by statues of a nude woman with rudely exaggerated sex organs.

**Archaeologist W. F. Albright** observes that: “At its worst, . . . the erotic aspect of their cult must have sunk to extremely sordid depths of social degradation.”—Archaeology and the Religion of Israel, 1968, pp. 76, 77 Proof of child sacrifice was found by **Archaeologist Merrill F. Un**ger: “Excavations in Palestine have **uncovered piles of ashes and remains of infant skeletons in cemeteries around heathen altars, pointing to the widespread practice of this cruel abomination**.” (Archaeology and the Old Testament, 1964, p. 279)

God Gave them 400 years to repent and stop all the detestable things, and then God destroyed most of Egypt, by crashing the Sea over them after all the plagues, and commanded the Israelites kill the rest in the land of Canaan with out mercy.

We see that the Lord already knew that they would not repent in Gen 15. But he still hoped they would and gave them every change, though it cost the lives of countless children.

**Case 2**

King David. 2 Samuel 12

7 Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! The Lord, the God of Israel, says, ‘I anointed you king over Israel. I saved you from Saul. 8 I gave you everything that belonged to your master Saul. I even put his wives into your arms. I made you king over all the people of Israel and Judah. And if all of that had not been enough for you, I would have given you even more. 9 Why did you turn your back on what I told you to do? You did what is evil in my sight. You made sure that Uriah, the Hittite, would be killed in battle. You took his wife to be your own. You let the men of Ammon kill him with their swords. 10 So time after time members of your own royal house will be killed with swords. That’s because you turned your back on me. You took the wife of Uriah, the Hittite, to be your own.’ 11 “The Lord also says, ‘I am going to bring trouble on you. It will come from your own family. I will take your wives away. Your own eyes will see it. I will give your wives to a man who is close to you. He will sleep with them in the middle of the day. 12 You committed your sins in secret. But I will make sure that the man commits his sin in the middle of the day. Everyone in Israel will see it.’ ” 13 Then David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” Nathan replied, “The Lord has taken away your sin. You aren’t going to die. 14 But you have dared to show great disrespect for the Lord. So the son who has been born to you will die.”

We know the story… Davids own son Absolom fulfilled most of this by sleeping with Davids wives in the middle of the day in a tent on top of the palace. David knew very little peace in his life.

2 Samuel 12:16

16 David therefore pleaded with God for the child, and David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. 17 So the elders of his house arose and went to him, to raise him up from the ground. But he would not, nor did he eat food with them. 18 Then on the seventh day it came to pass that the child died.

22 And he said, “While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘Who can tell whether [a]the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’ 23 But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.”

Ps 51 is the Psalm of David’s Repentance **(how much time do we have check)**

God Exalts David, by calling the Throne of Christ the Throne of David.

David Continued to Worship God, and have Worship Go up 24-7 for years.

He repented; it is never mentioned again that David Displeased The Lord. He kept Bathsheba, and she bore more children, along with all his other wives, Truly the Time of David is a cornerstone in the Gospel and in history. A man after Gods own heart.

Case 3.

Jonah.

There are really 2 instances here. Both show God’s mercy. First after Jonah runs and is swallowed by the whale… (I know that the bible says “Great Fish” here but Jesus in the new testament says Whale. After tragedy befalls him and all who are with him he is cast over, and God transports him to the very shore of where he needs to go. He is bleached white by the stomach acids of the whale before he is vomited out on the shore. This is one instance of Jonah repenting.

The historical Nineveh was the capital of the neo-**Assyrian empire** in the late seventh century B.C.E. There was no love lost between the ancient Israelites and Nineveh. **The city’s king, Sennacherib**, laid siege to Jerusalem in 701 B.C.E. (2Kgs 18:13-19:37, Isa 36-37). The prophetic book of Nahum is an Israelite taunt-song over Nineveh’s destruction by the Babylonians in 612 B.C.E. For Nahum, Nineveh is a “city of bloodshed” (Nah 3:1). The Assyrians’ ruthless military tactics are also pictured in reliefs from the king’s palace in Nineveh, now in the British Museum.

Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian Empire , who worshiped the Assyrian moon false god “Sin.”

**They are haled as “the terrorist of the ancient times”** after all their god is named SIN!!

Sin, (Akkadian), Sumerian Nanna, in Mesopotamian religion, the god of the moon. Sin was the father of the sun god, (Baal?), Shamash also all the other false gods including ashterah and anat. The Crescent Moon was the symbol. Or Sin was represented as an old man with a flowing beard—a wise and unfathomable god—wearing a headdress of four horns surmounted by a crescent moon.

What is amazing is that there doesn’t seem to be any depravity in the worship of sin, as with the others.. This one over seen the birthing of cattle, and wisdom. A note is that Abraham celebrated new moon festivals that may have been linked to Ur his homeland.

Case 3 ; Instance two.

We pick it up at Chapter 3

1 Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying, 2 “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.” 3 So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, [a]a three-day journey in extent. 4 And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day’s walk. Then he cried out and said, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

The People of Nineveh Believe

5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them. 6 Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes. 7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his [b]nobles, saying,

10 Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it

Chapter 4

1: But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry.

**His heart was numb, the nothingness had set in. All he cared about was how it made Him Look!!**

2 So he prayed to the Lord, and said, “Ah, Lord, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm. 3 Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live!”

**4 Then the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” (Warning One)**

5 So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city. 6 And the Lord God prepared a [a]plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery. So Jonah [b]was very grateful for the plant. 7 But as morning dawned the next day God prepared a worm, and it so damaged the plant that it withered. 8 And it happened, when the sun arose, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat on Jonah’s head, so that he grew faint. Then he wished death for himself, and said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

**9 Then God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?” (Warning Two)**

And he said, “It is right for me to be angry, even to death!” (Pride, Humanism, Pragmatism)

**10: But the Lord said, “You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which [c]came up in a night and perished in a night. 11 And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left—and much livestock?”**

**God is saying, “What’s wrong with your heart, why don’t you care about these people, why are you lifting yourself, your own comfort and your happiness above whether these people live or Die?? Your heart is out of order!!!**