

Pray for Repentance

*“From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say,
‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”*

Matthew 4:17

*“In those days John the Baptist appeared,
preaching in the desert of Judea saying,
‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!’*

It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:

*‘A voice of one crying out in the desert,
prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.’”*

Matthew 3:1-3

~~~~~

“Repent” is the first word of Jesus’ ministry. It is the core word in the ministry of John the Baptist. They were both Jews so would have had a Hebraic cultural-religious foundation for this word and concept. Repentance is a theme in the Old Testament. Looking at the Hebrew words for “repent” provides deeper insight into the power of this spiritual practice.

In our quickie-fix culture, to repent has been watered down to just “I’m sorry God”; a mere verbal nod. This is NOT the meaning and value of repentance. Repentance is a genuine course-correction, a change in thinking, turning back to God and restoring a relationship with Him.

### **Biblical Words for “Repent”**

There are two key words in Hebrew for “repent” and one in Greek.

1. “*Nocham*” which means to repent, be sorry. It shares the same root as *nacham*, which means to comfort, repent, relent, be sorry.

## Pray for Repentance

This seems to infer that when we return to God by course-correction, we are met with compassion, consolation and comfort.

2. “*Shoov*” which means to turn back, to be returned, carry back, brought again; inferring that a relationship is restored. *Teshuvah* is a turning back to God, and is an act and expression of asking for God’s forgiveness.
3. The Greek *metanoia* is found in the Gospel and means repentance, a change of mind, change in the inner man. Also a reformation or reversal in one’s behavior, thinking and character.

***WE PRAY FOR REPENTANCE*** to take hold in the hearts and minds of the people of this nation.

### ***We Pray....***

Dear Heavenly Father, Abba, we come before You as your remnant Intercessors, praying for the people of our land to truly repent, that they will truly choose to transform their character and return to a genuine relationship with You Lord God; which includes knowing, honoring and living Your ways of moral life and spiritual well-being. We ask You to send Your Son Jesus Christ and Your Holy Spirit to call them to repentance.

We pray especially for those who are entrenched in a marxist mindset, godless, anti-christ, violent, hateful, anti-American, under the influence of demonic powers. We pray for the children of these people who are living in a toxic environment, children being groomed and filled with dysmorphia. We pray that Your Holy Spirit will convict them to repent, truly come out of their darkness and return to Your light, Your heart and Your love.

# Pray for Repentance

## Humble Their Hearts

- ◆ Dear Father God, Abba, Jeremiah 7:16 tells us: *“You, now, must not intercede for this people! Do not raise a cry or prayer in their behalf! Do not press me, for I will not listen to you!”*
- ◆ So Father God, we don’t come to intercede but to pray that their hearts will be softened, that they will be humbled to come to true repentance and come out of their wickedness that has brought such ruin to our country, our culture and our children.
- ◆ Heavenly Father, You have given prophecies to several different people about an “Illumination of Conscience”, an event that will reveal to each person on earth the condition of their soul.
- ◆ We pray that You will till the soil of their hearts beforehand, to humble their hearts to convict them to come out from demonic programming and soul-damaging life choices.

## Change Their Minds

- ◆ Heavenly Father, part of true repentance is genuinely changing one’s mind. This is part of a true inner transformation that heals and directs the soul back into relationship with You. We pray that You will send Your Spirit upon those who are still in darkness and demonic programming, and convict them of their misdeeds, fill them with a healthy sorrow for where and what they have done wrong, who they have hurt on account of their disordered thinking and actions.
- ◆ Hebrews 12:16-17 illuminates the ramifications of choosing not to change one’s mind: *“Like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that later, when he wanted to inherit his father’s blessing, he was rejected because he found no opportunity to change his mind, even though he sought the blessing with tears.”*
- ◆ Lord God, Your Word in 2 Corinthians 7:9-10 differentiates between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow: *“Saddened into repentance; for you were saddened in a godly way, so that you did not suffer loss in*

## Pray for Repentance

*anything because of us. For godly sorrow produces a salutary repentance without regret, but worldly sorrow produces death.”*

- ◆ We pray that You will convict Your wayward sons and daughters of genuine godly sorrow, sorrow for how they have hurt Your heart, have hurt the people they love, have hurt their own soul.

### You Respond to Those Who Return to You

- ◆ Heavenly Father, so many times You spared a whole nation and peoples when they repented, truly changed their dark ways and came back to You. We pray for this mercy of Yours, that these truly godless blue cities and states will return to You.
- ◆ Abba Father, Jonah 4:2 demonstrates the mercy You pour out when a person genuinely returns to You: *“O Lord, is this not what I said when I was still in my country? That is why I ran to Tarshish, because I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and great in lovingkindness, and [when sinners turn to You] You revoke the [sentence of] disaster [against them].”*

### Leaving Behind Wickedness

- ◆ Heavenly Father, many a time You have spared a city or peoples when they changed their ways. So this could be done with those who change their policies and stop promoting and supporting evil, violent criminals and the destruction of our country.
- ◆ For Jonah 3:10 describes this mercy of Yours: *“When God saw their deeds, that they turned from their wicked way, then God [had compassion and] relented concerning the disaster which He had declared that He would bring upon them. And He did not do it.”*

# Pray for Repentance

## Humble Oneself

- ◆ Dear Abba Father, it is not just enough to give lip service to repentance, but to also heal relationships that have been damaged or destroyed on account of cruel behavior.
- ◆ Genesis 33:3 describes this of Jacob making amends with his brother Esau: *“He himself went on ahead of them, bowing to the ground seven times, until he reached his brother.”* We pray that those who repent will also humble themselves to making amends with those they have hurt and harmed.

## Make Amends ~ Restitution

- ◆ Dear Abba, it is clear from Your Word that just saying “I’m sorry” or claiming repentance is not sufficient. Without accompanying actions, it does not demonstrate a change of heart. It does not fully right a wrong.
- ◆ For the Hebrew word for making amends, “yatab”, often is enjoined with a warning of repercussions if amends are not made. In Genesis 4:7, *“If you act rightly [yatab], you will be accepted; but if not, sin lies in wait at the door: its urge is for you, yet you can rule over it.”*
- ◆ Holy Father God, making amends is such an important part of true repentance that it is outlined in Jeremiah 7:3,5-7: *“Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Reform your ways and your deeds so that I may dwell with you in this place. Only if you thoroughly reform your ways and your deeds...if you no longer shed innocent blood in this place or follow after other gods to your own harm, only then will I let you continue to dwell in this place, in the land I gave your ancestors long ago and forever.’”*
- ◆ Your son David understood the necessity of making amends in 1 Chronicles 21:22, *“David said to Ornan: ‘Sell me the site of this threshing floor, that I may build on it an altar to the Lord. Sell it to me at its full price, that the plague may be withdrawn from the people.’”*

## Pray for Repentance

- ◆ So Lord God, we pray that You will convict your lost sheep to also make amends to those they have violated; and it will be a genuine *yatab* from the heart.

### We Pray From Hope

- ◆ Lord God Abba, it seems that so many of these souls are absolutely recalcitrant, intractably godless; but You ask us to be holy as You are holy. Your Son Jesus Christ Yeshua asks us to love one another as He loves us, to be perfect as our Father in Heaven is perfect in love. So we pray for the repentance of our fellow countrymen out of hope, divine hope.
- ◆ For Your Word in Romans 12:12 tells us: “*Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.*” And so Lord God, we remain constant in prayer, hopeful that all of our countrymen will be saved, will accept the gift of Your Son Jesus Yeshua, and will return to You in humble repentance. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

# Pray for Repentance

## SEALING PRAYER:

*“I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you  
and continued My faithfulness to you  
Again I will build you and you will be rebuilt,  
Restrain your voice from weeping  
And your eyes from tears,  
For your work will be rewarded, says the Lord;  
And your children will return from the enemy’s land.  
There is [confident] hope for your future, says the Lord;  
Your children will come back to their own country.  
I have surely heard Ephraim moaning and grieving,  
‘You have chastised me, and I was chastised,  
Like a bull unaccustomed to the yoke or an untrained calf;  
Bring me back that I may be restored,  
For You are the Lord my God.  
‘After I turned away [from You], I repented;  
After I was instructed, I struck my thigh [in remorse];  
I was ashamed and even humiliated  
Because I carried the disgrace of my youth [as a nation].  
They will come with weeping [in repentance and for joy],  
And by [their] prayer [for the future] I will lead them;  
I will make them walk by streams of waters,  
On a straight path in which they will not stumble.”*

Jeremiah 31:3-4, 9, 16-19