

The Need for Repentance

Proclamation Bible Study; Week of Sunday, March 29, 2020; Steve Thiel

Sermon Theme: God's people have fallen back into sin; and the only remedy is confrontation and repentance. We too, as God's people, must be quick to listen to the Word, quick to own sin, and quick to glory in grace that we might live transformed lives for God's glory!

I. Reading God's Word – Read Nehemiah 13:1-3

- A. How would you summarize the books of Ezra and Nehemiah? If you were to give a quick overview of Nehemiah chapters 8-13, how would you summarize them?
- B. After reading Nehemiah 13:1-3, what causes the people's conviction of sin and their need for repentance? How would you define repentance? What are the critical components of it?
- C. If you were to assess your own life, in what areas do you need to separate from the world's way of thinking and commit to walking in a manner more consistent with the gospel? How would a regular time of reading the Word help you with this commitment?

II. Confronting Man's Sin – Read Nehemiah 13:4-31

- A. Can you identify the three areas in which the Israelite's are failing to keep God's Law? What observations do you make about these sections? Is there a consistent pattern that you notice?
- B. What stands out to you about Nehemiah's role in all three of these sections? What do you think needs to be true of a person for them to willingly confront another person on their sin?
- C. Would you consider the Israelite's truly repentant? What do you think is the difference between a godly sorrow that leads to salvation and a worldly sorrow that leads to death (2 Cor. 7:10)?
- D. As you think about entire book of Nehemiah and the details of Nehemiah's life, in what ways does he point us forward to the Lord Jesus Christ? How is Jesus greater than Nehemiah?

III. Walking in God's Way – Application

- A. How would you like to grow in taking sin more seriously in your own life? How about in the lives of your brothers and sisters in Christ here in this particular church?
- B. As you evaluate your own situation, do you have enough people who know you well enough to speak true into your life? Do you know people well enough to speak truth into their lives? What practical things can you do to be more deeply involved in people's lives?
- C. Does joyful obedience characterize your life? Why or why not? How would you like to see that change? How does bible reading, prayer, meditation and memorization play into your plan?