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CHRISTIAN INSPIRATION DIGITAL MONTHLY PARTNER MAGAZINE

MARCH 2021

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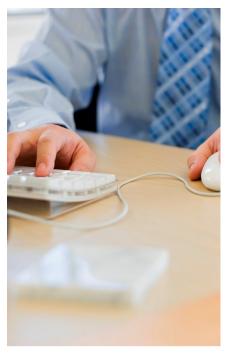
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FEATURED ARTICLE

THE PLAN OF REDEMPTION

CONGREGATION OF CHURCHES





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The Purpose of "PARTNER MONTHLY" PUBLICATION

On May 14th, **CONGREGATION OF CHURCHES** will be celebrating twenty-seven years of ministry. The Lord has crowned **2021** as a season of **VISION FULFILLMENT**, **RESTORATION & OVERFLOW**. Let's place a faith demand on what God is saying and doing and gain momentum in the spirit. We will not become static but will remain dynamic with the help of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord has lead us to develop additional materials to support our partnership community. Our objective at **CONGREGATION OF CHURCHES** is to merge ministry into the marketplace through the use of online technologies. Over the past five years, we've developed: **PARTNER PODCASTS**, and **PARTNER CELL GROUPS** and now we've added this newest concept "**PARTNER MONTHLY**".

**PARTNER MONTHLY** is a digital monthly partner magazine, created to bring fresh perspectives on the scripture from the founder; Derick E Wilkes and from other authors and publishers of the gospel as the Lord leads. We'll appreciate your feedback about this publication. **Thanks**!





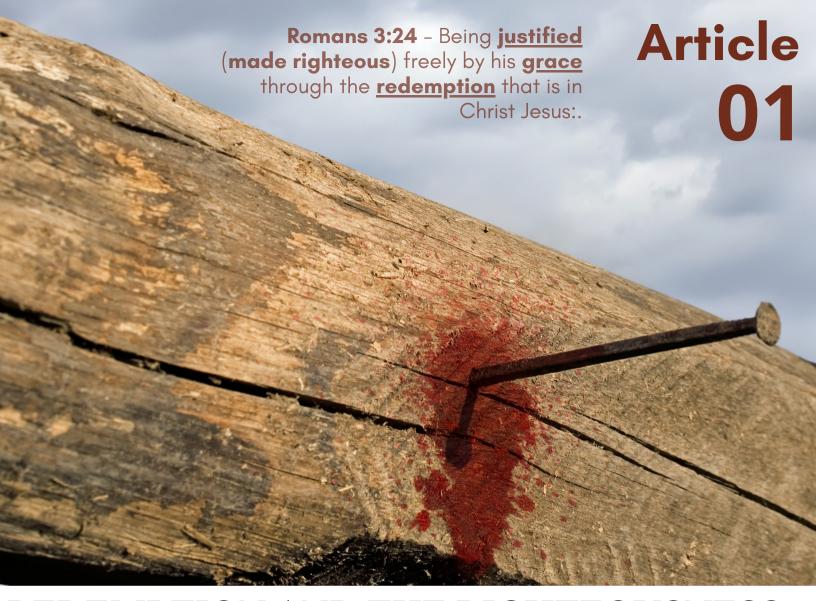


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# REDEMPTION AND THE RIGHTEOUSNESS

# **CONNECTION**

**Redemption** is to **regain** possession of something in exchange for **payment**, or the clearing of a **debt**.

**Christian redemption** 

involves rescuing and recovering man from the destruction of sin, ..... death and eternal judgment through the blood of Jesus Christ.

The penalty for Adam's disobedience was death ...... and Jesus paid our debt of death .... with His life, ..... in the stead of ours.

The foundation of redemption is the grace of God, because it was by God's grace or gratuitous nature that He set the plan of redemption in place.

- The ultimate objective of God's plan of redemption was to restore
- righteousness and its corresponding blessing to mankind. (Gal. 3:8,11)
- Listen to the following verse:
- Romans 3:24 Being justified (<u>made</u> <u>righteous</u>) freely by his <u>grace</u> through the <u>redemption</u> that is in Christ Jesus:
- This verse shows the connection between <u>redemption</u> <u>and</u> <u>righteousness</u>.

## Also listen to the following verse:

**Ephesians 1:7** - In whom we have **redemption** through his **blood**, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;:

Our *righteousness* by faith enables us to access the grace of *redemption*.

Before, God ever uttered: "*let us make man in our image and after our likeness*" He knew in, His omniscience that man, would disobey Him, and had a plan to <u>redeem</u> mankind through His son Jesus, who would come in the form of flesh, yet, having God's <u>blood</u>.

### How would that be possible?

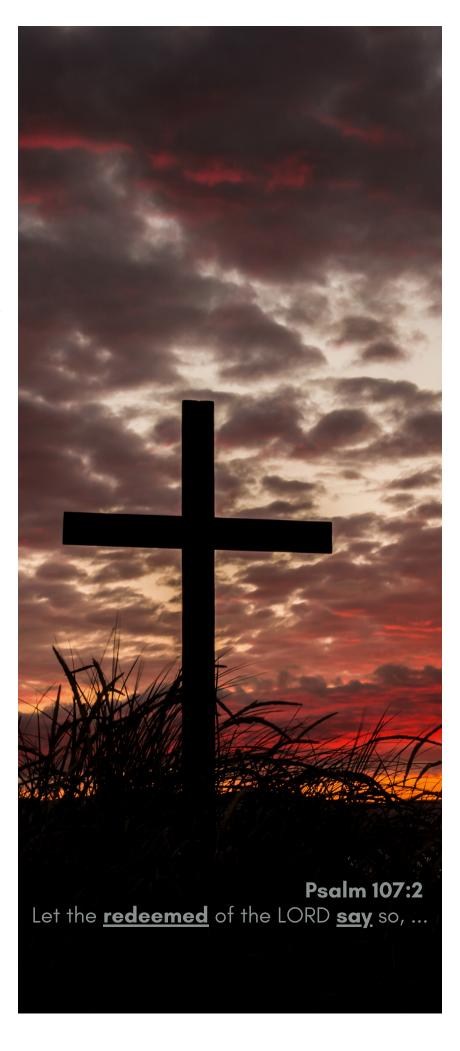
It would be possible through what is known as an **incarnation**, which is the <u>union</u> of <u>humanity</u> with <u>divinity</u> in Jesus. After the fall of man, God prophesied that the <u>seed</u> of the woman would bruise the head of Satan. That very seed, is the same seed that impregnated Mary, after she said "**so be it unto me according to your word**."

But wait! The woman doesn't have any seed to offer to any child. The seed comes from the male and not the female.

So then, where would the seed come from, of which God is speaking about? It would come from God himself.

Listen to the following words;

1 Peter 1:23 AMPC - You have been regenerated (born again), not from a mortal origin (seed, sperm), but from one that is immortal by the ever living and lasting Word of God.



Did you know that you were born of your father? This is actually good news. The blood running through your veins comes from your father and not your mother. The seed of the man is what introduces the presence of life and blood into the embryo or we could say the womb of the woman. This is good news!

Why is it good news? If Jesus' earthly parents; Joseph and Mary had known each other sexually, then Jesus would have been just as spiritually dead as we were in Adam, as he would have had that same polluted blood. Why? The seed of the male offers the blood to the child, and not the female. Therefore, Jesus did not have Mary's blood.



Jesus had His father's blood. I am not speaking of Joseph, as again, Joseph and Mary never got together.

### Jesus had God's blood.

Jesus had God's blood and man's flesh. Jesus was the son of God and the son of man. Jesus had man's authority and God's anointing.

I have a question for you; "who's blood is flowing through your life now"?

If we were speaking of <u>natural birth</u>, you were <u>born</u> of your <u>natural father</u>. Yet, when speaking of spiritual birth, you are <u>born again</u> of the <u>same incorruptible</u> seed that impregnated Mary.

When you received Jesus as Lord and savior by faith; you were made righteous and entered into the life which Jesus paid for you to have with His blood.

Say the following words with me: I am the redeemed. Psalm 107:2

I've been redeemed by the blood of the lamb. *Hebrews 9:12*I've been made righteous by faith in the blood of Jesus. **Ephesians 1:7** 

When the first Adam sinned, he died spiritually, and was separated from the life of God. Adam was no longer righteous. The blessing of God, which was upon his life was to be propagated throughout the entire earth. Adam was to live under the influence of the blessing throughout his life and not the curse which he opened the door to.

Adam opened the door to sin, sickness, demons, fear, poverty, unbelief and more. The main part of the curse he opened the door to was spiritual death, sickness and poverty. However, through the plan of redemption, the last Adam (Jesus) made available the opportunity to be restored to righteousness and the corresponding blessing.

### Let's close with the book of Galatians chapter three and verses thirteen and fourteen:

**Galatians 3:13-14** - Christ hath <u>redeemed</u> us from the <u>curse of the law</u>, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

**Vs 14** - That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The plan of redemption through Christ has restored us to a place of righteousness.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** - For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

God did His part, our part is to receive what He did.

# Listen to the following verse;

**Romans 10:9-10** - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath **raised him from the dead**, thou shalt be saved.

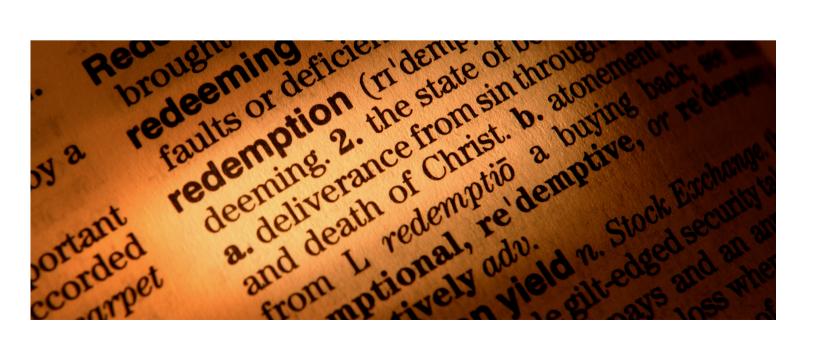
**Vs 10** - For with the heart man <u>believeth unto righteousness</u>; and with <u>the mouth confession is made</u> unto salvation.

We through faith are made right with God because of God's plan of redemption.

### **Derick E Wilkes**

Evangelist and Pastor

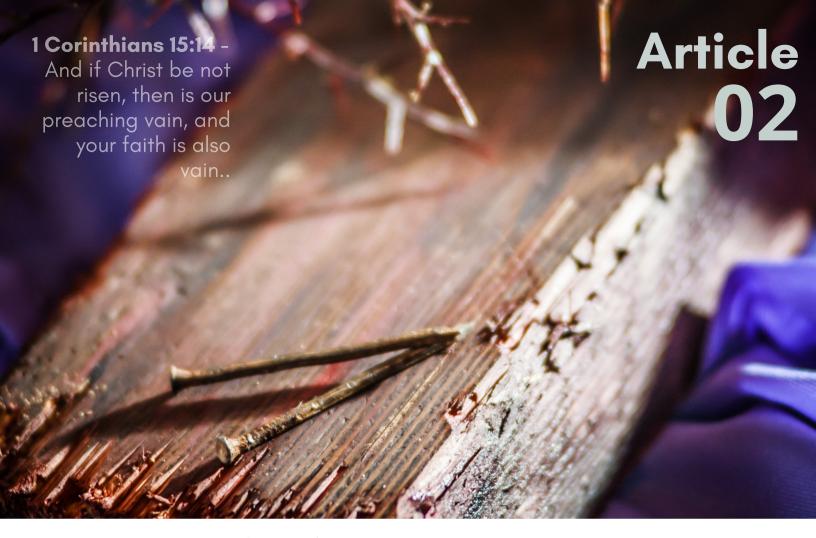
### **Congregation of Churches**



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DERICK E WILKES

# REPENTANCE PRESUPPOSES ONE CAN BE HEADING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION.



# REDEMPTION AND THE ...

# RESURRECTION

What is resurrection?

Resurrection is to be <u>born out of the death</u> associated with <u>Adam's high treason and</u> <u>disobedience</u> in the Garden of Eden.

Huunh... what?

How is Adam's disobedience connected to the resurrection?

### THE PURPOSE OF THE RESURRECTION

The <u>penalty</u> for Adam's disobedience was spiritual <u>death</u>. God in His gratuitous nature (GRACE) implemented the plan of redemption which would send <u>Jesus</u> (His son) to the cross who would die for the sins of the world, as a payment for the debt of death. Yet, the debt would still be outstanding if Jesus wasn't resurrected.

Resurrection is identified with the person of Christ and is defined as to be born out of death.



We also experience physical resurrection in the last day. (John 11:25-26)

Did you know that Jesus wasn't the first person raised from natural death? However, He was the first person raised from spiritual death.

Although both the Just and the unjust will be raised from the dead, it's the Christians that are raised to eternal life. (Acts 24:15)

Resurrection and to be raised from the dead are not the same.



Was Jesus resurrected? Of course!

It is one thing to be raised from the dead, and quite another to be resurrected.

Let's look at a few references:

When Jesus say's in John 11:25-26 "I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in me shall never die...,"

1 Corinthians 15:12 - Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?



Vs 13 - But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:

He's talking about spiritual death and spiritual life. He does not mean that, if you believe in Him, you are not going to physically die.

Vs 14 - And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.

So, what is the difference between being raised from the dead and the resurrection?

The resurrection of Jesus is the key element in our salvation! (Romans 10:9-10)

In the New Testament Jesus by the Spirit of God raised a man by the name of Lazarus, from the dead, as well as a Widow's son from the town of Nain, and He also raised from the dead, the daughter of a man named Jairus. In each of these instances, the people who were raised, died again.

Verse fifteen

God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not.

Vs 15 - Yea, and we are found false witnesses of

However, with resurrection, you cannot die anymore. Death has no more of a hold on you. Vs 16 - For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:

Jesus is alive today because He was resurrected.

**Vs 17** - And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.

(Rom. 6:9)

The resurrection is a major component in God's plan of redemption, as resurrection proves that the price has been paid. (Mark 16:1-7, Matthew 12:40, Matthew 16:21, Acts 2:29-31)

When Jesus said that "I am the Resurrection and the Life" This meant that: He lives - He gives life to believers - We live in Him if we believe.

Along with the <u>resurrection</u> comes the <u>power</u> to overcome everything we <u>were enslaved</u> to <u>prior</u> to <u>redemption</u> being fulfilled. In order to connect to that <u>resurrection</u> power we must understand all that is associated with being in <u>right standing</u> with God.

Understanding what you have a right to ... as the righteous ... is labeled RIGHTEOUSNESS CONSCIOUSNESS.

Considering all that you've read up to this point, you're beginning to see the value of understanding redemption, righteousness and resurrection individually and then how they flow together. Righteousness is to be in right standing with God; while righteousness consciousness is to know what you have a right to ... as you stand with God.

Righteousness consciousness gives us <u>access</u> to what belongs to us in Christ. Righteousness consciousness gives us <u>access</u> to resurrection power.

Listen to the following reference:

**Philippians 3:9-10** - And be found in him, not having *mine own righteousness*, which is of the law, **but** that which is through the faith of Christ, *the righteousness which is of God by faith*:

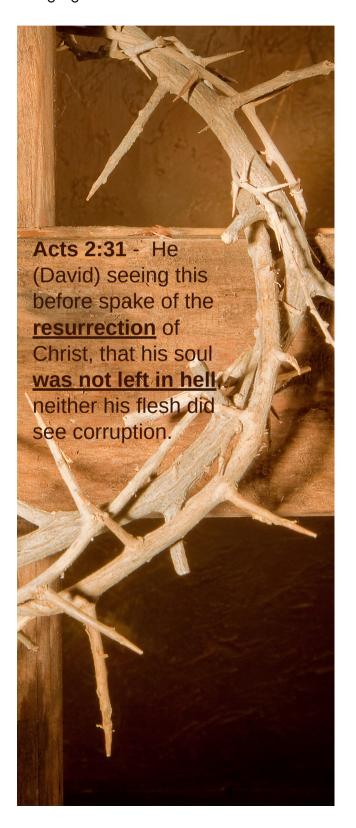
**Vs 10** - That I may <u>know him</u>, and <u>the power of his</u> <u>resurrection</u>, ...

You cannot experience the power of a resurrected life without a revelation of righteousness.

Righteousness consciousness enables you to walk by faith, connecting you to the resurrection power of God. Knowing Christ, <u>precedes</u> the power to raise us above everything that we have been redeemed from.

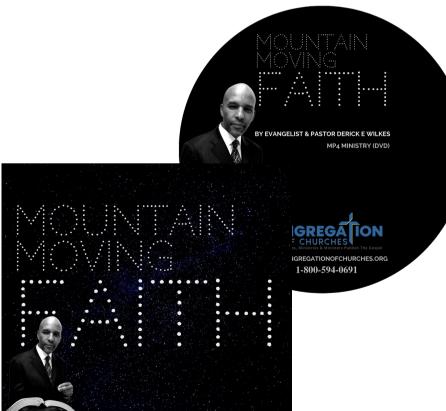
The resurrection of Jesus is intended to generate power within those who believe. The resurrection of Christ is an inseparable part of the plan of redemption.

Derick E Wilkes
Evangelist and Pastor
Congregation of Churches









BY DERICK E WILKES

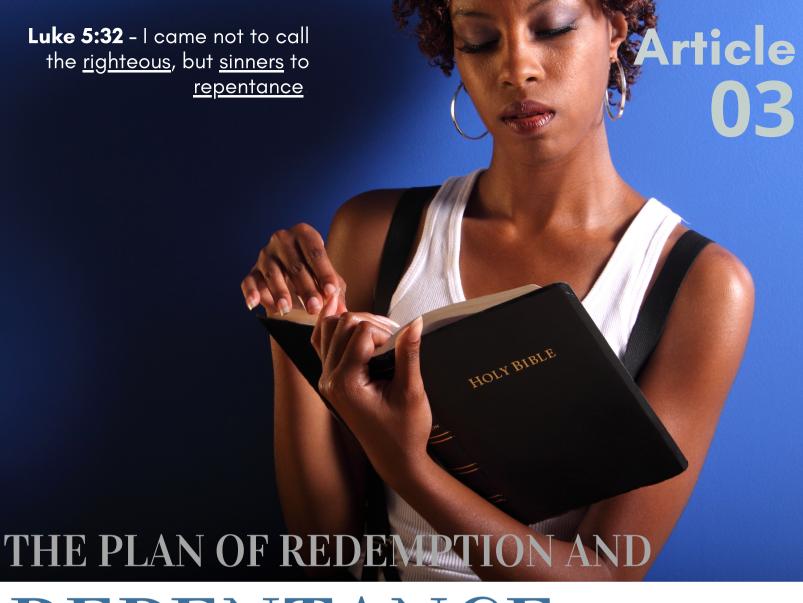
Mark 11:22 - And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. Vs 23 - For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, ...

Mountain moving faith must include God's will. When we apply the principle of mountain moving faith without the injunction to have faith in God, it hurts our faith.

We aren't required to have mountain moving faith as much as we are to have the faith of God

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# REPENTANCE

Repentance presupposes one can be heading in the wrong direction.

Let's begin our study by looking at the book of Luke, chapter five and verse thirty-two.

**Luke 5:32** - I came not to call the <u>righteous</u>, but <u>sinners</u> to <u>repentance</u>.

According to this verse, <u>sinners</u> are in need of <u>repentance</u>, so that they would be made <u>righteous</u>.

There is a distinction made between the sinner and the righteous. They are not one and the same.

Righteousness is where we'd want to be, and God's righteousness is through faith in Christ.

In order to rightly understand repentance, we need insight into what SIN is.

Sin is the transgression of light or missing the mark. Someone in this world is classified as a <u>sinner</u> and someone in this world is classified as <u>righteous</u>.

Who is a sinner?

It **cannot** be **both** people of verse thirty-two of our text.

**Luke 5:32** – I came not to call the <u>righteous</u>, but <u>sinners</u> to <u>repentance</u>.

Two more verses to look at before we define repentance, let's find out who a sinner is.

Look with me at Romans chapter five and verses twelve and nineteen.

**Romans 5:12** – Wherefore, as by one man <u>sin</u> entered into the world, and <u>death</u> by <u>sin</u>; and so <u>death passed upon all men, for that</u> all have sinned:

Verse nineteen:

**Romans 5:19** - For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

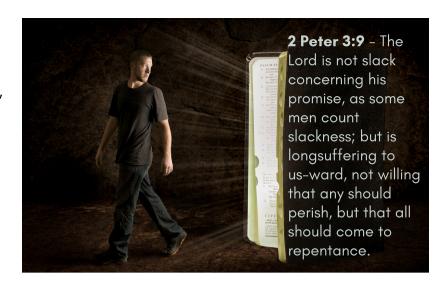
It was through the first Adam's disobedience that, all men born out of him (Adam) were made sinners.

### What did mankind do, to become sinners?

They were born!
That's it!
They were born sinners.

By no choice of our own we were born into this world naturally, and were made sinners, by default. Yet, by an act of our choice we can be born again supernaturally and be made righteous.

Jesus said that ... after his departure ... the Holy Spirit would come and He would reprove the world of sin, because ..... they believed not on him.





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Listen to these words from the book of John chapter sixteen and verses eight and nine.

**John 16:8** - And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

### Vs 9 - Of sin, because they believe not on me;

So then, the sin that the Holy Spirit is convicting the world of, ...... is the sin of rejecting Jesus Christ.

That's the sin! All other fleshly and evil conduct stem from this root. The nature of a sinner is to sin.



However, once you're born again, you'll have the ability to resist sin. In fact. for the Christian, ... repentance is only necessary because we have the ability to resist sin. We'll come back and speak to you about the Christian in a moment. Repentance is needful for both the Christian and the unregenerate man, and we need to understand what it means for both.

A person is considered <u>unrighteous</u> by nature if they are without Jesus.

A person is considered <u>righteous</u> by nature if they have received Jesus as Lord and savior.

God would have all men to be saved and none to perish. Therefore through His grace, He made salvation available for <u>all</u> mankind. I just heard the Lord say; "*If a man can be born, ... a man can be born again*".

Some have confused righteousness by nature with a lifestyle of holy living. Righteousness is who you are by nature upon receiving Jesus. Certainly there are behavioral changes that should represent righteousness, however those changes are associated with the renewing of the mind.

Once a person is born again, they are considered righteous by nature. Yet, there is a repentance necessary for the Christian as well. The repentance for the sinner is to TURN TO JESUS.

The repentance for the righteous is to TURN FROM OLD MINDSETS that hinder the child of God from experiencing the newness of life associated with the new birth experience. Nevertheless, in both instances; repentance is to turn. Turning to Jesus for the sinner and turning from old ways or wrong ways of thinking for the righteous.

The turning is built ... into ... the believing! It's in this instance and usage, of repentance, that the sinner who believes in Jesus, has also repented, by default.

The repentance is not of works, but by belief.

Listen to these two verses, one from the book of John chapter three and verse sixteen, a popular verse and then, a less popular one in verse eighteen.

**John 3:16** - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Now, verse eighteen.

**John 3:18** - He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God

So then, when the unrighteous turn from the sin (singular) of unbelief to belief in Christ, they are saved.

God did not say that the Holy Spirit would convict the world of not repenting of their sins (plural), but that they would be convicted of the sin (singular) of unbelief.

Repentance isn't the changing of the unregenerate man's ways in his own strength, instead it's the turning unto Jesus, who will help him to change his ways.

The turning to Jesus is preceded with information known..... as the gospel. The hearing of the gospel preached, provides the needed direction and instruction.

When one hears and believes, he will then turn to Jesus for salvation. Again, as it relates to the Christian or the righteous, his opportunity of repentance is associated with mind renewal. However, with the renewing of the mind, it is a process that begins after the new birth and continues throughout our Christian lives.

**Repentance** is necessary in order for the unregenerate sinner to access what Christ made available through His **redemptive** work at Calvary.

Repentance brings salvation (Righteousness) into the life of the sinner.

With this you can see the connection between  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ EDEMPTION,  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ ESURRECTION,  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ IGHTEOSNESS and  $\underline{\mathbf{R}}$ EPENTANCE.

All of this will open the door to restoration.

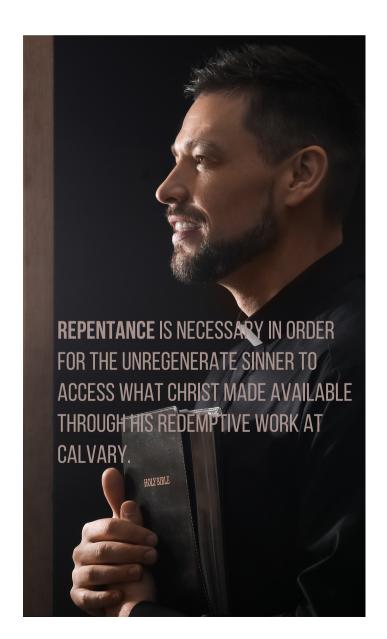
Restoration of all that was lost in the fall.

That's all for now!

### **Derick E Wilkes**

Evangelist and Pastor

**Congregation of Churches** 



# 2021 CALENDAR



**UPCOMING EVENTS** 







EACH WED.

BIBLE STUDY 7PM
267-490-4970

EACH SUN.
WORSHIP SERVICES 11AM
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APRIL 24TH NATALIE'S BIRTHDAY

MAY 14TH 27TH ANNIVERSARY







AUGUST 6TH PASTOR'S BIRTHDAY



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