

12/30/18 Sunday School: **UNDERSTANDING POSITIONAL TRUTH**

**Prov. 23:6,7** An evil man is evil through and through.

**Gen 6:5** All men were evil at that time and the imaginations of their wills and intents were also. (their "hearts")

**Heb 4:12** The Word of God can discern the thoughts and intents of my heart.

**Luke 24:36-38** thoughts and "hearts" are from the same place. "Heart" in scripture doesn't usually mean the emotions or sentiments. This is why Paul emphasizes so often that we need to renew the mind. Our minds tend to go back to the worldly, the carnal.

**Rom. 12:2** Be not conformed to the world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

**2 Cor. 10:4,5** and **Eph 4:17-23** (see handout with the chart I Was – I Am)

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11:00 am: **MUST WE CONFESS OUR SINS TODAY?**

The point is to understand the difference between the Body of Christ and Israel.

**1 John 1:9** This is the verse most of Christianity quotes to back up the belief that we must confess our sins.

Who wrote this letter? The Apostle John – apostle to the Little Flock (Israel remnant of believers).

**Matt. 10:1-7** Remember Jesus in His earthly ministry was only sent to Jews, not to Gentiles.

**Rom. 15:8** Jesus was a minister of the circumcision, sent to Israel only. We are NOT God's covenant people.

**Acts 3:1** Peter, James and John were still observing the Law.

What John wrote would have been consistent with what Jesus commanded. But his message was not "for" Gentiles. **John 14:1**

John taught:

1 – Jesus was God

2 – they needed to keep His commandments (and the Law)

3 – What will happen during the Tribulation.

**John 15:10** "Keep my commandments"

**1 John 3** and **1 John 5:1-3** all about keeping the commandments and about obedience to what He had taught.

**1 John 1:9** is an Old Testament precept.

**Matt 3:1** John the Baptizer begins to proclaim the offer of the Kingdom.

**Matt 3:6** They were confessing their sins.

**Lev 5:1-5** confession was instituted by God, under the Levitical Law.

**Daniel 9:3-5** Daniel interceding for Israel in the Babylonian captivity. Notice confession. Under the Law, you have to have a priest who would sacrifice something to make atonement for your sins.

**Daniel 9:20** confessing their sins.

**Heb 3:1** (written to Hebrews – Israel) They will need a High Priest in the Tribulation. The Levitical Priesthood will be set aside, replaced by Jesus Christ Himself.

**Heb. 5:1-3** Obey Him will be part of the Kingdom gospel during that time.

**Heb 9:24-28** Christ will intercede for Israel in the Tribulation – again acting as their High Priest. *Christ IS the Tabernacle, The High Priest AND the Sacrifice!*

So why does confession of sins not apply to us today in the Body of Christ?

**Eph. 4:30** We are sealed unto the day of redemption and already have forgiveness for all sins, past present and future. It was all paid for on the Cross.

**Col. 1:14** In Christ we have forgiveness. **Col. 2:10** We are complete in Him. See **vs 11** – we receive a spiritual circumcision whereas Israel had to have physical circumcision.

**Vs 13:** "having forgiven you all trespasses" – note this is PAST tense.

**Vs 14:** blotted out the Law!

**Rom 4:14-15** The Law worketh wrath because you can't keep it. Over 21 times Paul tells us we are not under the Law.

Do we need to repent of sin *to be saved*?

- what you need to repent of is unbelief in your need for a Savior.
- Repent of being an enemy of God.
- Repent of thinking you are OK without God.

Repent means to change your mind. Repentance is not "cleaning up your act".

**2 Cor. 7:8** Paul speaking of changing this mind. **Vs 9:** "sorrow to repentance" mean regretting their actions and changing their minds about what led to those actions.

So, Christians do need to repent of their sins only because certain things do not belong in the life of a believer. **Titus 2:11** our motivation to "behave" is GRACE, not reward or punishment, blessing or cursing.

**Vs 12:** how we should live – in appreciation for what He's done for us in Christ. The love of God constraineth us.

**NOTES:**