

Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.

Psalms 119:37

Store In My Heart Ephesians 1:22-23

And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Note the two statements regarding the position of Jesus: "all things under his feet" & "head over all things to the church"

Jesus is ruler of everything, the world, governments, men, animals, earth, sun, moon, stars, etc. There is nothing in existence that is not under the power and authority of Christ. Only God the Father is above Him.

Jesus is also separately designated as head of the church. This gives him complete authority to direct its function and mission. No man can decide what the church should do without first consulting the commands given by the Head. As with your physical body, all parts of the church work only under the direction of the Head.



God Demands A Change

John M. Duvall

Since the beginning of time, God has had a standard by which man was to live. When men walked in a different path than was instructed by God, God demanded repentance and change. We see this demand in several passages of both the Old and the New Testament. In **Jeremiah 18:8**, God said, *"If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them."* Take notice that God said that He would not destroy the nation if they would *"turn from their evil."* This call to turn was a call to repent and change. Another example of repentance is seen in the life of king David (**2Samuel 12:12-17, 22-23**). David had sinned by engaging in sexual relations with Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah the Hittite. David then had Uriah killed in an attempt to cover his own sin. By so doing, David had given occasion for the other nations to blaspheme the Lord. After Nathan confronted David about his sin, David changed or turned from his sin. (Although David repented of his sin and his life was spared, he still had to face the consequences of his sins.)

In the New Testament, we find that God still demands that men turn away from their sin. **2Peter 3:9** reads, *"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."* The Lord desires that all who are guilty of sin come to repentance. If a sinner will come to repentance, the Lord will forgive him of his sins. Turning away from sin to serve the Lord is essential to becoming a Christian, a child of God.

Consider the example of the Jews who had crucified Jesus. On the day of Pentecost, fifty days after the death of Jesus, Peter addressed the guilt of these Jews. In **Acts 2:38**, Peter preached, *"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus*

*Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” In **Acts 3:19**, Peter also preached, “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...”*

The Greek word translated as repent is metanoeo which means “1) to change one’s mind, i.e. to repent 2) to change one’s mind for better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one’s past sins.” (Thayer). Peter was teaching the Jews the need to turn away from their past sin of rejecting Jesus and to be converted to Jesus and His teachings. The Greek word translated as converted is epistrepho which means “1) transitively 1a) to turn to. . .1b) to cause to return, to bring back 2) intransitively 2a) to turn to one’s self...” (Thayer). The Jews were to turn to a life of believing in and obeying the teachings of Jesus. This change was to begin with the Jews repenting of their past sins and being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (**Acts 2:38**). Upon so doing, those who obeyed would be forgiven of their past sins.

As we study Acts chapter 2 through 4, we find that many of the Jews changed their hearts and their lives. In order to undergo this change, the Jews had to repent of their sins and be converted to Jesus Christ. In **Acts 2:41**, we see that 3000 people repented and were baptized. In **Acts 4:4**, we see that 5000 people believed and were converted to the Lord.

If you are not a Christian, then please take to heart the fact that God desires for you to come to repentance. Embrace the teachings of Jesus Christ by believing in Him (**John 3:16**), repenting of your past sinful life (**Luke 13:3**), confessing your belief in Him before men (**Matthew 10:32**), and obeying His command to be baptized (**Mark 16:16**). Upon so doing, your sins will be forgiven and washed away just as Ananias promised Saul when he said, “*And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*”

If you are a Christian, but you have wandered away from a life of obedience, then follow the instructions Peter gave to Simon when he was told to repent of his wickedness and to pray that God would forgive him of his sin (**Acts 8:22**). In order to serve the Lord, changes must be made. Make those changes today so that you will be saved.

Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

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The
CHURCH OF CHRIST

MEETS HERE



10:20 AM • Sunday Worship Service
5:00 PM • Sunday Night Bible Study
7:00 PM • Wednesday Bible Study

For Our Information

Vickie McNees has been dealing with some chest pains in addition to her other health difficulties.

Sue Soliday is doing physical therapy for her lymphedema.

Jim Soliday is still having random heart rhythm issues.

Many of our members have difficulties in their health and well-being, most also have family members with these as well. We need to keep each other in our prayers daily.

Sunday Evening – **Psalm 24-25** Wednesday - **John 8:21**

Gospel Meeting with Jared Hagan - September 15-19

Announcements are available in the Foyer