

**REPENTANCE
UNTO
LIFE**

by

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REPENTANCE UNTO LIFE

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*Unless otherwise indicated, all quotations are from
the New King James version of the Bible.*

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PREFACE

We read in Proverbs 1:7 that “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...” Here we learn that in order to begin to have “knowledge” – which must include knowledge about the Person of God – we must have something. This essential something is called “the fear of the Lord.”

What then is this fear? It is a reverent respect for God. It is a realization of His unlimited power. It is a consciousness of His purity and holiness which present a standard by which we are required to live (I Pet 1:16). It is the inner knowing that some day we will be judged by Him for our actions, words and even thoughts. It is something which, if rightly understood, causes us to tremble before His almighty presence. It is a sentiment which impels us to seek Him to cleanse our lives so that we will be ready when He comes.

Yet much of the church of our day seems to lack this fear. Those who “tremble at [His] word” (Is 66:5) seem to be in the minority. The fear of the Lord, which should be fundamental to everything, is treated as if it were out of date or something only for severe, uptight, legalistic Christians.

The result of this lack of godly fear is that many believers are involved in sin. Their lives are not pure and holy. They do not reflect the character of Christ in their daily living. Many are committing sexual sins. Others are addicted to prescription or illegal drugs. Others are dishonest, angry, irritable, do not keep their promises and/or think only about themselves. Still others have secret abortions, spend hours sucking in online pornography, hate other believers, do not forgive those who offend them and yet still proclaim that they are converted to Christ.

How can it be that the church which Jesus wants to present to Himself without spot or wrinkle (Eph 5:27) seems to be overflowing with such impurity, filthiness and sin? How is it that those who “name the name of Christ” have not departed from iniquity (II Tim 2:19)? Not only have they not departed, it seems that many, even from the pulpits, are justifying ungodly behavior.

Yet there is hope. Believers today need to pray, urgently seeking God, that by His mercy we His people might come to know the fear of the Lord. We read: “... by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil” (Pr 16:6). If, by God’s grace we can experience this holy fear, it will change our lives. It will cause us to seek His face. It will impel us to cry out for His salvation and purification of our beings.

How is it that we can have more of the fear of the Lord? It is by seeing Him. It is by understanding more about who He is. It is by glimps-

ing His power and glory. It comes by a true understanding of His word, receiving more revelation concerning His purposes and knowing more perfectly His will for His people.

This small volume is an attempt to address this need. It is a short writing about what this author understands to be some of the lost fundamentals of the gospel. It is his prayer that God will use it to speak into the lives of the readers and draw them ever more into an intimate relationship with Him which will transform their lives.

DWD

“For they have healed the hurt
of the daughter of my people slightly,
saying, ‘Peace, peace!’
When there is no peace” (Jer 8:11).

“When you walk through the fire,
you shall not be burned, nor shall the
flame scorch you” (Is 43:2).