

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 3:17 The evidence that Jesus is the Messiah is clear from the Old Testament, from the works of Jesus, from His death and resurrection. Therefore, the ‘ignorance’ is absolutely inexcusable; Yet, none are beyond the reach of God’s grace, if they will repent and turn to Christ.
- 2) 3:18 The rejection of Messiah did not alter God’s program.
- 3) 3:19 Repentance is a change of mind resulting in a change of behavior.
- 4) True repentance is admitting what God says is true. And because it’s true, a change in direction results in a change of behavior
- 5) 3:19 Sorrow or regret for sin must not be confused with genuine repentance.
- 6) There are three promised results for repenting:
 - God will forgive
 - Judgment will be avoided
 - Blessing will be realized
- 7) 3:19 God does far more than cross out sins. He wipes them away completely and remembers them no more.
- 8) 3:19 The future Kingdom will not come through human efforts, but only from the presence of the Lord.
- 9) 3:21 Another name for the future earthly reign of Christ is the “millennial kingdom,” a time marked by peace, joy, holiness, comfort, justice, health, prosperity, freedom from oppression.
- 10) 3:22-24 Moses warned of the consequences of rejecting Messiah. Those who persist in rejecting Jesus will be utterly destroyed.
- 11) 3:25 God’s covenant made with Abraham was fulfilled in Jesus. He is the seed of Abraham in whom all the families of the earth shall be blessed.
- 12) 4:4 Persecution always has led to the expansion of the church.

The same God who declared these truths in the first century still says today, “*Repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away.*”

Take away from Acts 3 & 4

1. **God is long-suffering.** The leaders of Israel had rejected Jesus, yet God gave them another opportunity. God patiently held back His judgment and sent His Spirit. God’s people today need patience as we witness
2. **True witness involves “bad news”.** Sin and guilt are a reality that must be faced by everyone. There can be no true faith in Christ unless first there is repentance from sin.
3. **The way to reach the masses is to help the individual.** Peter and John dealt with the beggar first. His transformed life led to the conversion of 2,000! Just like Jesus, the Apostles took time for individuals.
4. **Whenever God is on the move, Satan shows up to oppose** the work and silence the witness. Expect it—but don’t let it stop you!
5. **The name of Jesus Christ has power!**

GREEK WORDS

Agnoia (ag'-noy-ah)—not to know; by implication to ignore (through disinclination)
 :- (be) ignorant, not understand
 Metanoēō - repent; literal “to change one’s mind or purpose”
 Exaleiphō (ex-al-i'-fo) wipe away; to *smear out, obliterate*

TODAY’S SONGS

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