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## "REPENTANCE: DOGS, HOGS AND THE REAL THING"

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### **MATTHEW 3:1, 8 (NASB)**

*"Now in those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea saying, **Repent**, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand...therefore **bring forth fruit** in keeping with REPENTANCE."*

**TRUTH:** Repentance is a gift of God; repentance in a man or woman's life is a sure sign of genuine biblical salvation. The absence of a changed life, the absence of repentance, declares a false profession.

### **I. THE CALL FOR REPENTANCE IN THE BIBLE**

Scriptures in the New Testament that call for Repentance:

1. Matthew 4:17
2. Matthew 9:13
3. Mark 1:14
4. Mark 2:17
5. Mark 6:12
6. Luke 5:31
7. Luke 13:1

**TRUTH:** It is the work of gospel preaching to afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted.

8. Luke 15:7

**TRUTH:** Heaven hasn't rejoiced over anything in your life or mine but repentance.

9. Luke 24:46

**TRUTH:** We are called as we go out into the world to preach two things... faith toward Jesus Christ and repentance, or sorrow over how we've lived and turning from a life of sinning.

**INSIGHT:** Repentance is a synonym for saving faith.

10. 2 Peter 3:9

**TRUTH:** Love that doesn't produce a change in life direction is not real love.

**II. REPENTANCE MEANS SURRENDER TO THE LORDSHIP OF CHRIST (Mark 8:34; Luke 9:23-25, Luke 24:47, Luke 18:9).**

**INSIGHT:** If you want to come to Christ that you might have heaven, there must be repentance. You can believe on Christ but without repentance, you are no better than the demons who also believe Christ is God.

**TRUTH:** A man who has repented and been truly saved is a man who is never, for all his life, the same as he once was.

**INSIGHT:** Real salvation comes by real repentance, which alters the character, the daily life of a person.