

DO YOU NEED TO REPENT?

It is said to be the “difficult command” you know? Perhaps, it is harder for some than for others. We each have our own propensities and weaknesses. However God will not permit us to be tempted beyond our capacity to endure. (cf 1 Cor 10:13) Jesus told Paul to teach “... that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.” (Acts 26:20 NASB)

If you have sinned against God only, then repent and ask God for forgiveness. If you have sinned against a person, then ask God and the person for forgiveness. If you have sinned against His church, then ask God and His church for forgiveness. REMEMBER, ALL SIN IS AGAINST GOD! - - **REPENT!!!**
CAB

CIVILIZATION

An unlearned man, with knife and stone
Carved images from wood and bone,
And hanging them from ledge and limb
Occasionally would worship them.
The world looked on with great surprise
And called this man uncivilized.

A learned man, with arduous toil,
Dug golden nuggets from the soil.
And from this ore, dug from a pit
He fashioned coin, and worshipped it
The same world somehow rationalized
The learned man was civilized!

By Dwayne Laws

“AMONG HIS OWN RELATIVES”

Mark 6:4 (NASB) Jesus said to them, “*A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and among his own relatives and in his own household.*” The occasion of this statement was His rejection by those of Nazareth, the town of His youth. (cf Luke 4:16, 24)

Christians, who have learned, to their bewilderment, the truth expressed in this maxim are innumerable. Frequent, indeed, is the reenactment of a scene similar to the following: A person learns the truth, and is amazed by the simplicity and yet perfect harmony of God’s revelation of His plan for man’s redemption. He sees clearly, that the Lord has the same plan of salvation for all people. He has learned that the Lord adds all who obey Him to the same church. He finds that it is His Word alone that will lead to heaven. He gladly obeys the Word of the Lord. His

happiness is enhanced by the fact that not only will he be serving his Master, but he can present the opportunity for joy to his relatives and friends, who are near and dear to him, when he reveals to them his new found knowledge.

To his great dismay and anxiety, his news is not received as he had expected. In fact, he may be rebuffed harshly for even suggesting that they need any salvation. After all, they say, those in one's own family should be more charitable! He surely must realize they are satisfied with their own religion! The participants in this scene may be a parent, or a child, or a brother, or a sister, or a husband, or a wife. The closer the relationship, the more perplexing is the rejection and deeper is the distress, it causes to the newly converted.

A similar setting, which will provide as much consternation, is when the members of one's own family are bent on following the digressive trends of the social gospel (church entertainment schemes with its attendant social fellowship halls, gymnasiums, etc.), and institutional minded modernists, including those who want to change the church into just another denomination. These often reject any efforts to help them see that biblical authority is of utmost importance in all the aspects of godly living, and is paramount to pleasing the Lord.

Many who were not sufficiently rooted and grounded have not been able to overcome this spurning, and have gone back to walk no more with the Lord. Read carefully the following words of Jesus and "be thou faithful unto death".

Matthew 10:34 - 37 (NASB) "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵"For I came to SET A MAN AGAINST HIS FATHER, AND A DAUGHTER AGAINST HER MOTHER, AND A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AGAINST HER MOTHER-IN-LAW; ³⁶and A MAN'S ENEMIES WILL BE THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD. ³⁷"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. CAB