

Matthew, Week 10

Chapter 3: The “John the Baptist Experience,” Part 5

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DISCIPLESHIP FOCUS:

We tend to think of “repentance” and “conviction” only on the levels of *sin*, but as we have seen with *repentance* (a “change of mind”), there is also a very positive side of *conviction*.

QUICK REVIEW

- 1) Repentance — **μετάνοια** — *metanoia*; literally, “a change of mind”; like a *metamorphosis* (a “change of body”)
- 2) Conviction — **ἔλεγχος** — *elengkos*; translated, proof, conviction, reproof, censure, correction.

Convicted of the *truth*. John 16:7-11

WHAT IS MAN?

Job 7:17 —

¹⁷ “What is man that You magnify him,
And that You are concerned about him,

Psalms 8:4 (We’ll look at the entire 8th Psalm):

⁴ What is man that You take thought of him,
And the son of man that You care for him?

Psalms 144:3-4 —

³ O Lord, what is man, that You take knowledge of him?
Or the son of man, that You think of him?
⁴ Man is like a mere breath;
His days are like a passing shadow.

Hebrews 2:6-8 —

⁶ But one has testified somewhere, saying,
“What is man, that You remember him?
Or the son of man, that You are concerned about him?
⁷ “You have made him for a little while lower than the angels;
You have crowned him with glory and honor,
And have appointed him over the works of Your hands;
⁸ You have put all things in subjection under his feet.”

For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

Genesis 1:27 —

²⁷ God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 9:6 —

⁶ “Whoever sheds man’s blood,
By man his blood shall be shed,
For in the image of God He made man.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 —

³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

PROBATION

The proving ground – this life.

A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save,
And fit it for the sky.

To serve the present age,
My calling to fulfill:
O may it all my powers engage
To do my Master’s will!

Arm me with jealous care,
As in Thy sight to live;
And O Thy servant, Lord, prepare
A strict account to give!

Help me to watch and pray,
And on Thyself rely,
Assured, if I my trust betray,
I shall forever die.

— Charles Wesley —

ONE GREAT TORMENT OF HELL

“You... judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life...” (Acts 13:46)

The great torment of Hell – how our lives made in the image of God, with a potential for eternal life, were spent in futility, selfish stupidity, and rebellion against the One in Whose image we were made.