

Acts 3:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

Analysis

Repent ye therefore, and be converted (μετανοήσατε οὖν καὶ ἐπιστρέψατε)—Peter's second sermon command uses stronger language: 'epistraphō' (be converted) means radical turning, complete reversal of life direction. **That your sins may be blotted out** (εἰς τὸ ἐξαλειφθῆναι)—the Greek pictures erasing or wiping away written debt, echoing Psalm 51:1's plea and Colossians 2:14's cancellation of legal demands. **When the times of refreshing shall come** connects personal salvation with eschatological restoration, suggesting both immediate spiritual renewal and future cosmic restoration at Christ's return. Repentance remains the constant gospel demand from John Baptist through Acts.

Historical Context

Spoken in Solomon's porch after healing the lame beggar, addressing Jews amazed at the miracle. Peter attributes the healing to faith in Jesus' name (v.16), then calls hearers to repentance. The 'blotting out' metaphor would resonate with Jews familiar with Exodus 32:32-33's 'book' and Isaiah 43:25's promise of erased transgressions.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does 'be converted' (active turning) differ from passive reception of salvation?
2. What 'times of refreshing' do you experience now versus awaiting Christ's return?

Interlinear Text

μετανοήσατε	οὖν	καὶ	ἐπιστρέψατε	εἰς	τὸ	
Repent ye	therefore	and	be converted	that	G3588	
G3340	G3767	G2532	G1994	G1519		
ἐξαλειφθῆναι	ὑμῶν	τὰς	ἀμαρτίας	ὅπως	ἅν	ἔλθωσιν
may be blotted out	your	G3588	sins	when	shall come	G2064
G1813	G5216		G266	G3704	G302	
καιροί	ἀναψύξεως	ἀπό	προσώπου	τοῦ	κυρίου	
the times	of refreshing	from	the presence	G3588	of the Lord	
G2540	G403	G575	G4383		G2962	

Additional Cross-References

Acts 2:38 (Sin): Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Isaiah 44:22 (Sin): I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.

Isaiah 43:25 (Sin): I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Matthew 18:3 (Parallel theme): And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 13:15 (Parallel theme): For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Psalms 51:9 (Sin): Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

2 Thessalonians 1:7 (References Lord): And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

Lamentations 3:40 (References Lord): Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.

Acts 11:21 (References Lord): And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

Acts 28:27 (Parallel theme): For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.