

Mark 6:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they went out, and preached that men should repent.

Analysis

They went out preached people should repent. Apostolic preaching centered on repentance. Metanoia change of mind life turning from sin to God. Not merely feeling sorry but radical reorientation. Gospel call is repent and believe. Faith and repentance two sides one coin. Reformed theology emphasizes repentance gift from God enabled by Spirit. Sinner does not generate own repentance God grants it. Preaching must call for repentance not merely positive thinking self-help.

Historical Context

John Baptist preached repentance Jesus preached repentance apostles continued same message. Acts records repent and be baptized (2:38). Paul preached repentance toward God faith toward Lord Jesus (Acts 20:21). Reformation recovered this biblical call. Medieval church sometimes emphasized penance (external acts) over repentance (internal transformation). Biblical repentance is heart change producing life change. Modern preaching sometimes avoids repentance preferring positive messages. Biblical gospel requires confronting sin calling for repentance.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. Why is repentance central to apostolic preaching and gospel message?
2. How does understanding repentance as gift from God rather than self-generated change our evangelism prayer?

Interlinear Text

Καὶ ἐξελθόντες ἐκήρυσσον ἵνα μετανοήσωσιν
And they went out and preached that men should repent
G2532 G1831 G2784 G2443 G3340

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 4:17 (Repentance): From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Acts 11:18 (Repentance): When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

Acts 20:21 (Repentance): Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 2:38 (Repentance): 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.

Matthew 3:8 (Repentance): Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

Matthew 3:2 (Repentance): And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Luke 11:32 (Repentance): The men of Nineve shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.

Luke 13:3 (Repentance): I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

Ezekiel 18:30 (Repentance): Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin.

Acts 3:19 (Repentance): 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;

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