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The Transformer of the heart must be allowed to change the way we *had* walked, talked, treated others, and trusted God—it is a *total* transformation of the heart! The apostle emphasizes the importance of not living, nor conforming, to the way the world thinks, acts, and looks. Romans 12:2 "*Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind*"—then we can "*Prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*" The will of God is *always good, acceptable,* and *perfect.* 

We are a *new creation* in Christ and a *new creature* by God through the process of allowing Him to *do* the spiritual work on our heart. *All* things become different—not *some* things or even *most* things, but *all* things are new by *transformation*! The word *repent* and its various forms are used over one-hundred times in the Bible—it is good that we understand its meaning.

John the Baptist preached: Matthew 3:2 "*Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*" Jesus preached the *same* message after John was put in prison: Mark 1:15 "*The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye and believe the gospel.*"

When Jesus sent out His disciples two by two Mark 6:12 "They went out and preached that men should repent." If Jesus specifically sent His disciples to preach repentance, then it is an important message to get across to others.

Repent is made up of two Latin syllables: re+pent, which means to again + think or think again. The word used for *repent* in Greek *Metanoeo*,

which means to repent with *regret* accompanied by a true *change* of heart toward God and everyone else. It signifies a *change* of *mind* and *regretting* the course our life and ways previously pursued.

Repentance is not feeling *bad* because we got caught but means changing our *mind* about something because it is *right*—it is *transforming* our mind—and only God can do that for us. And when He does, our actions will *not* be the same as they were. 2 Corinthians 7:10 *"For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death."* 

An Israeli said that ancient and modern Hebrew are the same except for *created* words needed for modern inventions—like cell phone, computer, etc. Every day, he said, school students in Israel visit the Dome of the Book Museum in Jerusalem—where a 2,800-year-old scroll of the Book of Isaiah is on display.

This Israeli said that the two Hebrew words for repent—*kha-zah-rah* and *tshu-vah*—both mean *to return*. By the power of God through His Holy Spirit within, we are to despise *things*, and *attitudes*, and *ways* of the world so much that we turn our back on them and return to God—giving our life totally to our Creator and Transformer from that point.

Only God *knows* the heart and He *knows* if we are sincere in wanting this transformed life—and John 6:44 "*No man can come to me, except the Fa-ther which hath sent me draw him.*" If God is drawing someone *to* Him, He would also be drawing the person away *from* their sin.

We are to hate the *old* way of living and the *wrong* attitudes we had *so much*—so much that we waste no time in repenting of those unscriptural ways. To make a profession without a transformation, is a *profession* without the *possession* of true faith in God.

When we are *born again*, our life *changes*—a new person is born. We grow in our *faith* in Christ and become more like Him in our *attitude*. If we

don't really desire to change, there won't really *be* any change. People should *see* and *hear* a difference in us—it's like a *before and after* photo. Others should see that we *dress* differently; *talk* differently; and *respond* to things differently.

Being *born again* means more than *asking* Jesus into our heart—it means allowing Him to *transform* our life by His indwelling Spirit. Jesus said to Nicodemus John 3:3 "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God"—being born again means being transformed into another person.

We must believe that the Transformer of the heart can transform our life completely. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should life." not perish, but have everasting Having everlasting life means having a transformed attitude. It is really believing that Jesus can really do that for us—as we allow Him and trust Him.

Belief *in Jesus* is more than just *acknowledging* the facts of who He is. It is to be totally convinced of how *wrong* the old way was and how *right* the new way is—then, being willing to put our complete confidence in the atoning sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is *more* than using *words*—it is actually changing our *heart*.

If we have professed a true repentance and change of heart, but someone whom we had not treated in a very kindly way or Christ-like manner before, sees or hears *no change* in us—because we *still* insult them; *still* upset them; and *still* make them feel uncomfortable when they are around us, our repentance would have to be in serious question. The *Transformer of hearts* wants to transform our *attitude* toward everyone!

Jesus is our *Lord*, and He wants a *total* commitment from us. Belief is trust with our mind; faith is trusting God with our life. Anyone can say Jesus is their Savior, but the reality of that is—what is seen in our life and heard in our conversations! 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ,

*he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new, "*—new attitudes, desires, entertainment choices, reading material, etc.

It is not an *improved* version of the old person; it is a totally *new* creation and *new* life by God. Jesus is not an *additive* in our life—He is the *Transformer* of our life!

Repenting means to make a 180 degree turn—go in the *other* direction. It means having a real *thirst* for the Word of God and being ready to help others by *following* that Word—in the way we act, talk, and decide.

We should really want to *hear* what God wants to *tell* us—by our reading the Scriptures. Joshua 1:8 "*This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*"

Going to church does not make a believer—but it is what a believer wants to do to learn more about how to live—being open to the message; singing hymns of praise to God; and praying for as well as with others. It is to have the attitude of Cornelius who immediately sent for the apostle and said: Acts 10:33 "Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God."

There are *atheists* in the world who deny the existence of God; and there are *agnostics* who do not rule out the possibility of God but think that His reality is unknowable—even though Romans 1:19 *"What may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities— His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse."* There is no excuse to be an *agnostic* or an *atheist*—the Transformer of the heart can transform anyone!

A person who gives speeches on Creation vs Evolution shows in his presentation that most dating methods reveal a very *young* earth. Evolutionists, however, just choose the dating method that supports their *position*—which is *not* good science.

Some people do not believe that the Bible is true and that it was written in 1611—which is *not* true; or even *close* to being true. King James had the Bible *translated* from Hebrew and Greek into English in 1611.

The Bible was only *translated* then, but it was first *written* back in 2000 BC on to 100 AD. Many people have so many things *wrong* about Scripture but God is willing and waiting to transform anyone's heart who is willing to make that 180 degree turn.

It is vitally important that we allow God to *transform* our life from what it *was* to what it should *be*—what He *wants* it to be! We must *know* what is on the other side of this life. Two destinations face every living soul on earth. One is too *horrible* to think about—because Revelation 14:11 "*The smoke* of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name."

The other destination is too wonderful to describe accurately—1 Corinthians 2:9 "As it is written: Isaiah 64:4; 65:17, 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God."

It is possible for a person to *believe* that something is going to be on the other side after they leave this earth, but when they get there finds that what he *thought* was going to be there, was *not* actually there! It is also possible for a person to *believe* that there is *nothing* after death, but to find out that there *is something*—and it continues forever and ever!

If someone believes there is *nothing* when they die but finds out that there *is* something—they would

be 100% *wrong!* However, you cannot have a *wrong* answer unless there is a *right* answer. There *has* to be a *right answer* about eternity—there *is* an eternal Truth, and God will *reveal* it to anyone who repents. God, through His Son's sacrifice at Calvary, and by the Holy Spirit dwelling within to control every decision, will *transform* any willing heart.

The New Testament speaks twice as much about *Hell* as it does about *Heaven—both* are very *real* places. If we do not totally give our life to God, and we find out that we are *wrong* about what happens after this life, we are literally choosing *Hell* for an eternity—no right-thinking person would *ever* do that! We *must know* what is on the other side; and we *must choose* correctly in *this* life, *now*!

There are eternal *consequences* of our earthly *decisions*; our *actions*; and our *choices*. The *Transformer of the Heart* is standing by—waiting and willing to *transform* any willing soul who will *make* a turn, *give* their life to Jesus, and *allow* Him to *transform* them into a totally *new creature!*—*anyone!* 

That leaves only us to blame if we don't allow God to transform us—because now we know better!

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www.fcgchurch.org PO Box 24283 Philadelphia, PA 19120 <u>info@fcgchurch.org</u> #3007 0612 22A