



Delivered

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

I sinfully see no need for repentance. **When I confess my sins, I acknowledge that I have offended God by failing to fear, love, and trust in Him and am ready to hear that my sins have been removed through Jesus' sacrificial death and resurrection.**

Bible Words

If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins. 1 John 1:9

Prayer

Heavenly Father, daily we sin against You and against others. By the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to recognize our sins, then confess them to You and repent of them. Assure us that You forgive all our sins for Jesus' sake. Give us the power and strength to resist temptation and to follow You alone. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

John Tells People to Repent

Matthew 3:1–12

By the time of the Roman occupation, the Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes, and teachers of the law enjoyed great power, exercising influence in Jewish society and pressing the people with strict, unscriptural laws they themselves didn't and couldn't keep. Consequently, the ranks of Jewish religious leadership were rife with corruption, abuse, and self-righteousness.

John the Baptist, the son of the aged Zechariah and Elizabeth, served as the last prophet to herald Jesus' coming. As an Essene, he lived a rugged life of separation and dedication to the Lord, residing in the wilderness, living off the land, and vesting himself in animal skins. John's message was simple: Repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins. The alternative is God's eternal wrath.

This harsh edict was anything but sweet music to the ears of the Pharisees and Sadducees, who considered themselves righteous before God as the result of keeping God's Law and having Abraham as their ancestor. John's warning and the ministry of Christ, which followed, ran directly counter to the culture of sinful pride and self-righteousness that marked the place and time.

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