

Chapter 3

Being Sorry for Sin: Repentance

On the day of Pentecost Peter preached a powerful sermon to the Jewish people in Jerusalem. They saw that they had sinned by crucifying Christ, and asked, "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). Peter's answer was simple. He said, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins " (Acts 2:38).

Repent. But what does it mean to repent? "Many people do not really understand true repentance. Millions are sorry that they have sinned. They even change their ways, because they are afraid that their wrongdoing will cause them suffering. But this is not true repentance; it is not the kind the Bible tells about. These people are sorry that sin may make them suffer, but they are not sorry for the sin itself" (*Steps to Jesus*, pp. 18-19).

Wólta'ii 3

Łahgo Át'éego Diyin God Bich'ì'

Tsínáhodiikeesgo

Ałk'idáá' Pentecost beiníłkáągo Peter éi Jew dine'é Jerusalemgi nidaakaiígíí ná'ílnáago bidziilgo yił hoolne'. Jesus éi tsin ałnáoszid bikáa'jì' yił ada'askaal, áko doo ákóne' ádáát'iidéę yaa ákodaniizì'go yaąh dabíni'. "Ákosą' haa dadii'níł?" na'ídééłkid (Acts 2:37). Peter ákónúigo t'áa k'éhézdónigo áyidíiniid: "T'ááłá'í nootínigo łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'ì' tsíndahidohkeesgo Jesus Christ bízhi' bee tó bee danihi'dólzìłh, áko Diyin God bich'ì' ádił da'soohs'ígíí nihá yóó'iididoo'áál" (Acts 2:38).

"Łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'ì' tsíndahidohkees," nihiłní kwe'é. Nidi kónígíí ha'át'íí lá ááhyiłní? "Diné t'óó ahayóí, łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'ì' nitsínízdookosígíí doo bił béédahózin da. Ajiisiih bił béédahózingo yaąh dabíni', áádóó kodóó nizhónigo nijigháa dooleeł, daaní łeh. Shik'éi yá'át'éehgo shaa nitsídaakees doo, danízingo ákódaa-ní shíí. Doo ákót'éego Diyin God bich'ì' łahgo át'éego tsínázdiikees da, Saad Diyinii bik'ehgo. T'óó shíí ti'dahwiizh-doonihígíí bee dadzildzidgogo, áko Diyin bich'ì' asésiih ni' dajinínígíí éi t'óó ádajiní" (*Steps to Jesus*, pp. 18-19).

After Judas, who was one of the twelve disciples, handed Jesus over and saw that he would suffer for what he had done, he seemed to repent. "He was afraid that he might have to suffer for what he had done, but he felt no deep, heart-breaking sorrow for selling the perfect Son of God to die. He was not sorry that he had turned away from Jesus, the Holy One of Israel" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 19).

On the other hand, when David sinned by taking a woman named Bathsheba away from her husband and making her his own wife, he knew that what he had done was wrong. Afterward he was truly sorry for his sin. His repentance was sincere and deep. He didn't try to hide his mistake from God, but admitted it freely. He prayed:

"Be merciful to me, O God, because of your constant love. Because of your great mercy wipe away my sins! Wash away all my evil, and make me clean from my sin! I recognize my faults; I am always conscious of my sins. . . .

Judas, éi Jesus naakits'áadah bikéé' naakaiígíí atah jílínígíí éi Jesus ninázhdiní'á. Áádóó bik'iji' bik'ee ti'hwii-deeshnihígíí baa ákozniizíí', áko łahgo át'éego baa tsínízdeezkééz nahalin. Nidi doo t'áá aaníí ájíníí da. "Ti'hoo'níih hodooleełii t'éi yaąh bini' nít'éé'. Doo t'áá íiyisí bijéit'ááhdéé' yee yaa yíníł tsínídeezkééz da, azhá Diyin God biYe' – Ízrel dine'é biDiyin nilínígíí – ninádiní'áa nidi" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 19).

Łahdáá' shíí David, aláahgo naat'áanii nilínígíí, áldó' baąhági ádzaa. Asdzání bahastiin t'áá íídáá' hólóogo ła', éi Bathshíiba wolyé. Asdzánígíí nizhónigo biniinaa bidázh-noosníí', bahastiineę baazht'íí lá, áádóó hwe'asdzáá ájiilaa. Áko baąhági ájiidzaaígíí biniinaa baąh háni'go baa tsízdeezkééz. Doo t'óó bik'ee ti'hwiihdoonihígíí t'éi baąh háni' da; t'áá aaníí łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsínízdeezkééz. Doo ákóó ájít'íidéę doo nízdees'íí' da; doo neinił'ingóó Diyin bee bił hojoolne'. Ákóníigo sozdoolzin lá:

"Diyin God nílíinii, aa a'ááh nínízinii bik'ehgo shaa jiiníbaah; bee aa a'ááh nínízinii t'óó ahayóígíí bik'ehgo bee haz'áanii héti'ii shá k'éé'íłchxóh. Doo ákwii áát'íidii áltso shąh táánígis áádóó ádił ni'ayészí'ii shąh díłdah! Háálá bee haz'áanii héti'ii baa ákoniiizíí', índa ádił ni'ayészí'ii t'áá

Create a pure heart in me, O God, and put a new and loyal spirit in me. Do not banish me from your presence; do not take your holy spirit away from me" (Psalm 51:1-3, 10-11, GNT).

"He prayed not only for forgiveness but for a clean heart. He wanted the joy of holiness—to be brought back into harmony with God" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 20).

The point is this: True repentance doesn't mean being sorry for the punishment you see coming. Anyone can be sorry for that. We don't need help from God to be sorry for what might happen to us. But we do need help from God to be sorry for our sins. There's a difference. The one means being sorry that *you* might suffer in hell. The other means being sorry that *Jesus* had to suffer for you on the cross.

Jesus gives us repentance, just as He gives us salvation. "The Bible does not teach that the sinner must

álahji' shi'diif'á. . . . Diyin God nílinii, baa'ihii shijéi bii' ádingo ánílééh, áádóó níłch'i shii' hólónígíí baa áhódlíigo ániidí ánánídlééh. Honílonígíí bits'áajj' áshólééh lágo, áádóó niNíłch'i Diyini shits'áajj' kóole' yíila' " (Psalm 51:1-3, 10-11).

"Shaa nídiní'aah jinúigo, doo éi t'éí bíká sozdoolzin da; shijéi yá'át'éehgo shá ánánídlééh jinúigo jííkeed. Ts'ídá t'áa ákogi é'ét'éii bibee if hózho hwee náhódleeh laanaa jinízin; Diyin God nizhónigo bíł ahił nááhojilne' le' laanaa jinízin" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 20).

Aláahdi ááhdii'nínígíí éi díi: T'áa aaníí łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsínáhodookosígíí éi doo ti'hwiidoo'nihígíí t'éí biniinaago baąh háni' da. Ti'hoo'níih éi báhádzid; Diyin t'áa géed nidi díi éi baąh háni' łeh. T'áa háiida ákózhdoońíł. Áko nidi Diyin God éi hajéi bii' hólóogo t'éiyá baąhági át'éii baąh háni' dooleełgo bízhneel'á. Diyin t'áa géedgo éiyá t'áa hó ádá ti'hwiizhdoońihígíí ch'íidiitahgóo baa nitsídzíkeesgo baąh háni' łeh. Diyin bíł lá'í nijigháago, *Jesus* t'áa bí ałk'idáá' shá ti'hooznii' tsin ałnáoszid bikáa'jii' baa nitsídzíkees łeh.

Jesus éi nihí łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsínídadíikosgo ídoolííł, dóo yisdánihidooftí – t'áa álah. "T'áa ákót'éego Diyin Bizaad yee na'nitin: Áłtsé Jesus baa níjídááh

repent before he can accept Christ's invitation, 'Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28). Christ's grace, His power, leads a person to truly repent" (*Steps to Jesus*, pp. 21-22).

We've said that repenting means being sorry for sin. But it means more than just being sorry. It also means turning away from sin. No one can be truly sorry for something he hopes to do again. He can be sorry for the guilt of a sin he hopes to do again, but not for the sin itself. To repent of your sins you must turn away from them.

It's very important to know this. It's also important to know that we can't do it. We can make people think we've put away a certain sin. We can even fool ourselves. But the desire to do that sin, or another one just as bad, is still in our hearts. Only Jesus can take that away. We are sinful and only Jesus can change our thinking so that we want different things than we once wanted. Come to God and in Jesus'

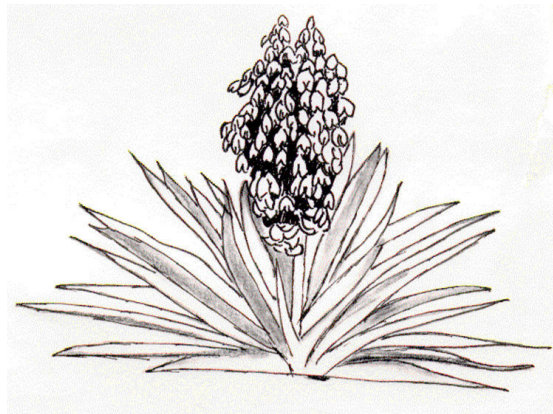
– t'áá ájít'éhígi át'éego. Áádóó índa yá'át'éehgo tsínízdidookos, dóó habaahági át'éii baah hání' doo. Jesus ání: 'Dziil nihigháanii áádóó nihiyéél dandaazii t'áá ánóltso hágo, shaa hohkááh, áko háádaalyíhgo ánihideesh-kíí' (Matthew 11:28). Áłtsé shíí t'áá ni łahgo át'éego shich'í' tsínídahidookos áádóó índa shaa hohkááh, doo níi da lá! Jesus ách'í' ninihí'éesh, áádóó índa łahgo át'éego tsínídahidiikeesgo ádanihiile'" (*Steps to Jesus*, pp. 21-22).

T'áá aaní łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsíníz-deezkээzgo doo ákóne' ájiiidzaaígíí éi biniinaa baah hání' dooleeł, dadii'ní. Nidi doo t'óó baah hání' da. Ałdó' yóó'azhdi'ááh. Díida, éida ánáádeesh'nííł jinízingo áko doo t'áá aaní baah hání' da. Ha'át'e' doo yóó'azhdi'aahgóogo doo t'áá aaní łahgo át'éego tsínízdeezkээz da.

Díi t'áá ałtso baa ákoznízingo éi yá'át'ééh, nidi t'áá hó t'éiyá t'áadoo diyin k'ehgo bízhneel'ání da. Bił kééhojit'íinii baahági át'éii yóó'iidí'áá lá danízingo shaa nitsídaakes doo, jinízin łeh. Shí k'ad yóó'adí'á ni jiníigo ázhdinót'áahgo shíí haz'áá lá ałdó'. Nidi t'ahdii hajéit'áahdi ánáázhdoo'nííłgo át'éé łeh. Jesus t'éi hajéi bii' hólóogo nihíni' łahgo ánéidoodlíłgo yíneel'á, áko yá'adaat'éhígí daniidzin doo.

name say: Change me so that in my heart I will hate sin, and help me to turn away from it.

You can't do either of these things without Jesus, but if you come to Him in faith and simply ask for these blessings He will give them to you. He can do for you what you can't do for yourself. Ask Him.



Yucca. State flower of New Mexico.

Diyin bináałgo Jesus yízhi' bee ákóbidiní: Shibaahági át'éii yéę t'áa aaníi shijéitl'ááhdóó yóó'adish'aah nisingo áshílééh, áko doo ákóne' iishłaaígíi jinishłá áshidííłíł.

Jesus t'áa géedgo łahgo át'éego nitsídzíkeesgo doo bízhneel'ąa da lá, nidi bííníkeedgo dóó nijéi bii' yinídląago, díi t'áa altsó ná iídoolíł. Doo bíninil'ánígíi Jesus ná iídoolíłgo át'é. Bííníkeed.