

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'í' Tsínáhodiikeesgo

Ałk'idáqá' Pentecost beinílkáago Peter éí Jew dine'é Jerusalemgi nidaakaiígíí ná'iłnáago bidziilgo yił hoolne'. Jesus éí tsin ałnáoszid bikáa'ji' yił ada'askaal, áko doo ákóne' ádáát'iidéę yaa ákodaniizíi'go yaqah dabíni'. "Ákoshá' haa dadii'nííl?" na'ídééłkid (Acts 2:37). Peter ákóníigo t'áá k'éházdoníigo áyidííniid: "T'ááłá'í nootínígo Łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsíndahidohkeesgo Jesus Christ bízhi' bee tó bee danihi'dólzííh, áko Diyin God bich'í' ádił da'soohsí'ígíí nihá yóó'iididoo'áál" (Acts 2:38).

"Łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsíndahidohkees," nihíłní kwe'é. Nidi kónígíí ha'át'íí lá ááhyíłní? "Diné t'óó ahayóí, Łahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' nitsínízdoookosígíí doo bił béédaħózin da. Ajiisiih bił béédaħózingo yaqah dabíni', áádóó kodóó nizhónígo nijigháa dooleeł, daaníi ɬeh. Shik'éí yá'át'éehgo shaa nitsídaakees doo, danízingo ákódaaníí shíí. Doo ákót'éego Diyin God bich'í' Łahgo át'éego tsínázdiikees da, Saad Diyinii bik'ehgo. T'óó shíí ti'dahwiizh-doonihígíí bee dadzildzidgogo, áko Diyin bich'í' asésiih ni' dajinínígíí éí 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, éí Jesus naakits'áadah bikéé' naakaiígíí atah jílínígíí éí Jesus ninázhdiní'á. Áadóó bik'ijí' bik'ee ti'hwii-deeshnihígíí baa áko ɬahgo át'éego baa tsínízdeezkéez nahalin. Nidi doo t'áá aaníí ájíníí da. "Ti'hoo'nííh hodooleehii t'éí yaqh bíni' nít'éé'. Doo t'áá iiyisí bijéít'ááhdéé' yee yaa yínííl tsínídeezkéez da, azhá Diyin God biYe' – Ízrel dine'é biDiyin nilínígíí – ninádiní'áq nidi" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 19).

Łahdáá' shíí David, aláahgo naat'áanii nilínígíí, ałdó' bąąhági ádzaa. Asdzání bahastiin t'áá úidáá' hólqogo ɬa', éí Bathshííba wolyé. Asdzánígíí nizhónigo biniinaa bidázh-noosníí', bahastiinéę baazht'íí lá, áadóó hwe'asdzáá ájiilaa. Áko bąąhági ájiidzaaígíí biniinaa bąąh hání'go baa tsízdeezkéez. Doo t'óó bik'ee ti'hwiizhdoonihígíí t'éí bąąh hání' da; t'áá aaníí ɬahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'i' tsínízdeezkéez. Doo ákóó ájíít'íidéę doo nízdees'íí' da; doo neinił'ingóó Diyin bee bił hojoolne'. Ákóníigo sozdoolzin lá:

"Diyin God nílínii, 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'íłchxqoh. Doo ákwii áát'íidii ałtso shąąh táánígis áadóó ádił ni'ayéeszíí'ii shąąh dííldah! Háálá bee haz'áanii héti'ii baa ákoniiizíí', índa ádił ni'ayéeszíí'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

áłahjí' shi'diił'á. . . . Diyin God nílíinii, baa'ihii shijéí bii' ádingo ánílééh, áádóó níłch'i shii' hólónígíí baa áhódlíigo ániidí ánánídlééh. Honílónígíí bits'áají' áshólééh lágo, áádóó niNíłch'i Diyinii shits'áají' kóole' yíila' " (Psalm 51:1-3, 10-11).

"Shaa nídiní'aah jiníigo, doo éí t'éí bíká sozdoolzin da; shijéí yá'át'éehgo shá ánánídlééh jiníigo jííkeed. Ts'ídá t'áá ákogi é'ét'éii bibee ił hózhó hwee náhódleeh laanaa jinízin; Diyin God nizhónígo bił ahił nááhojilne' le' laanaa jinízin" (*Steps to Jesus*, p. 20).

Aláahdi ááhdii'nínígíí éí díí: T'áá aaníí ɬahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsínáhodoookosígíí éí doo ti'hwiidoo'nihígíí t'éí biniinaago bąąh háni' da. Ti'hoo'nííh éí báhádzid; Diyin t'áá géed nidi díí éí bąąh háni' ɬeh. T'áá háiida ákózhdooníł. Áko nidi Diyin God éí hajéí bii' hólóogo t'éiyá bąąhági át'éii bąąh háni' dooleełgo bízhneel'á. Diyin t'áá géedgo éiyá t'áá hó ádá ti'hwiizhdoonihígíí ch'íidiitahgóó baa nitsídzíkeesgo bąąh háni' ɬeh. Diyin bił ɬá'í nijigháago, *Jesus* t'áá bí ałk'idáá' shá ti'hooznii' tsin ałnáoszid bikáa'ji' baa nitsídzíkees ɬeh.

Jesus éí nihí ɬahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsínídadiikosgo íidoolíł, dóó yisdánihidoołtí – t'áá áłah. "T'áá 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'

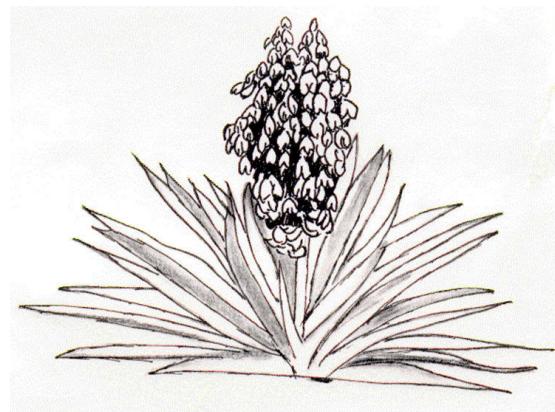
– t'áá ájít'éhígi át'éego. Áadóó índa yá'át'éehgo tsínízdidookos, dóó bąąhágí át'éii bąąh hání' doo. Jesus ání: 'Dziil nihigháanii áadóó nihiyéél dandaazii t'áá ánółtso hágó, shaa hohkááh, áko háádaałyíhgo ánihideesh-łííł' (Matthew 11:28). Áłtsé shíí t'áá ni ɬahgo át'éego shich'í' tsínídahidoohkees áadóó índa shaa hohkááh, doo níi da lá! Jesus ách'í' ninihíí'éésh, áadóó índa ɬahgo át'éego tsínídahidiikesgo ádanihiile' " (Steps to Jesus, pp. 21-22).

T'áá aaníí ɬahgo át'éego Diyin God bich'í' tsíníz-deezkéezgo doo ákóne' ájiidzaaígíí éí biniinaa bąąh hání' dooleeł, dadii'ní. Nidi doo t'óó bąąh hání' da. Ałdó' yóó'azhdi'ááh. Díida, éida ánáádeesh'nííł jinízingo áko doo t'áá aaníí bąąh hání' da. Ha'át'e' doo yóó'azhdi'aahgóogo doo t'áá aaníí ɬahgo át'éego tsínízdeezkéez da.

Díí t'áá ałtso baa ákoznízingo éí yá'át'ééh, nidi t'áá hó t'éiyá t'áadoo diyin k'ehgo bízhneel'ání da. Bił kééhojit'ííni bąąhágí át'éii yóó'iidíí'áá lá danízingo shaa nitsídaakes doo, jinízin ɬeh. Shí k'ad yóó'adíí'áá ni jiníigo ázhdinót'áahgo shíí haz'áá lá ałdó'. Nidi t'ahdii hajéít'áahdi ánáázhdoonííłgo át'ée ɬeh. Jesus t'éí hajéí bii' hólóqogo nihíni' ɬahgo ánéidoodlííłgo yíneel'áá, áko yá'ádaat'éhígíí 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: Shibąąhági át'éii yéę t'áá aaníí shijéítł'ááhdóó yóó'adish'aah nisingo áshílééh, áko doo ákóne' iishłaaígíí jiinishłá áshidíílííł.

Jesus t'áá géedgo ɬahgo át'éego nitsídzíkeesgo doo bízhneel'áa da lá, nidi bííníkeedgo dóó nijéí bii' yinídláągo, díí t'áá ałtso ná iidoollííł. Doo bínínil'ánígíí Jesus ná iidoollííłgo át'é. Bííníkeed.