**Repentance Part II - John the Baptist: The most famous unknown person ever?**

**The many attempts to establish the Kingdom on earth**

**1. Innocence: Adam and Eve**

**2. Conscience: The Garden to the Flood**

**3. Human Government: The Flood to the Tower of Babel**

**4. Promise: Abraham through the Exodus**

**5. Law: Exodus through the Cross (suspended at the cross)**

**6. Grace: Church Age from the coming of the Spirit until the Rapture (Between**

 **the 69th and 70th week of Daniel)**

**7. Millennial Kingdom: The Coming of Christ through the 1,000 reign**

**The Agreement with Israel at Sinai: The Law**

**1. Always faith alone to be righteous – Gen. 15:6**

**2. The Law is different and Israel agreed to it - Ex. 19:5-8; 24:3, 7**

**3. The Terms: Obey = Blessed; Disobey = Cursed – Dt. 28-30**

**4. The OT overall: A spiritual roller-coaster with Israel**

**5. End of the OT: The value of Malachi - The summary and the promise - 4:4-6**

 **v. 4: Remember the Law (You agreed to keep it!)**

 **v. 5: Eli’s coming (Before the Day of the Lord)**

 **v. 6: Turning hearts (repentance); Father to the children, children to fathers**

 **This sets up the NT and contextualizes Matthew, Mark, and Luke- Chronological New Testament!**

**The Coming of John the Baptist**

**1. John’s identity - Lk. 1:13-17 - Recognize this?**

**Identity: Lk. 1:13-17**

* **He came in the “Spirit and power of Elijah”**
* **His goal? To “Turn the hearts of the fathers to the children” AND to…**
* **“Make ready a people prepared for the Lord” Isa. 40:3; Jn. 1:23; Acts 19:4**

**2. John’s Message – Repentance and the good news of the Kingdom (Mk. 1:1-15)**

**Definition of Repentance**

* **A decision to turn from sin**
* **It avoids, or brings and to an end, God’s temporal judgment.**
* **Israel had violated the Mosaic agreement for centuries and needed to get right with God to prepare them to believe in Him (Jn. 1:11-12; Acts 19:4).**

**Offer and message**

* **John’s message was a message of repentance for Israel to prepare them for the Messiah and His Kingdom (Mt. 10:5-6).**
* **Matt. 3:1-7 – Consistent with the OT, in general, Malachi, in particular.**
* **The “wrath” would come without repentance.**
* **Matt. 11:13-15 – “If you’re willing…”**
* **Mt. 11:16-19 – They were not.**
* **Mt. 17:9-13 – “Wait! If you’re here…” After the Transfiguration: “John was Elijah, but was rejected. Now, we move to plan ‘B’”.**
* **Acts 1:3-7 – The disciples got it! So did Paul – Acts 28:30-31**
* **Rom. 11:25-27 – Waiting on Israel’s repentance (Acts 3:17-21)**

**Part II: One of the three primary uses of repentance:**

**The way Israel gets right with God concerning the Mosaic Covenant**

**So what: How can this be helpful?**

**1. All of history revolves around the Kingdom and Israel.**

**2. Our future, and that of the world, revolves around Israel.**

**3. This study can help explain why Israel is no longer the focal point of God’s program (Rom. 11:25-27)**

**4. Believers better understand their role in the Church Age and how the Scriptures address the course of this world.**

**5. Prophecy: Israel’s failure led to the Gentile inclusion. The Gentile failure will lead to the return of Christ.**

**6. Since temporal wrath is still a real thing, our personal repentance is critical. The story of Israel is supposed to help us not repeat their mistakes (1 Cor. 10:1-13, especially vv. 6, 11).**

**7. We better understand the Bible and its application to us through this lens.**

**Israel needs to repent to avoid wrath and be restored. So do we.**