


The Need to Repent in Light of Universal Sinfulness


Luke 13:1-9

Presented by Bob DeWaay
October 12, 2008



Overview: Need for Repentance

- **Luke 12:57-59**
Get right with the Judge (repent implied)
- **Luke 13:1-3**
Evil perpetrated by humans on others: all need to repent
- **Luke 13:4-5**
Natural catastrophe that causes suffering and death: all need to repent
- **Luke 13:6-9**
God will not wait forever to find fruit in His vineyard: (repent implied)



The occasion was a warning to get right with the judge

- **Luke 13:1**
Now on the same occasion there were some present who reported to Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.



Rather than express outrage about Pilate's actions, Jesus corrects popular theology

■ **Luke 13:2**

And Jesus said to them, "Do you suppose that these Galileans were greater sinners than all other Galileans because they suffered this fate?"



All will die, either sooner or later; but we must avoid dying in our sins

■ **Luke 13:3**


"I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."



Coming to a catastrophic end does not reveal one's relative sinfulness


■ **Luke 13:4, 5**

"Or do you suppose that those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them were worse culprits than all the men who live in Jerusalem? I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

 The parable of the fruitless fig tree


■ **Luke 13:6**

And He began telling this parable: "A man had a fig tree which had been planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and did not find any."

 The vineyard is a reminder of Israel's past


■ **Isaiah 5:7**


For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel And the men of Judah His delightful plant. Thus He looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; For righteousness, but behold, a cry of distress.


 A failure to bear fruit

■ **Luke 13:7**

And he said to the vineyard-keeper, "Behold, for three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree without finding any. Cut it down! Why does it even use up the ground?"

 **Echoes of John the Baptist**
■ **Luke 3:8, 9**
Therefore bear fruits in keeping with repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," for I say to you that from these stones God is able to raise up children to Abraham. Indeed the axe is already laid at the root of the trees; so every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

 **A temporary reprieve to allow time for repentance**
■ **Luke 13:8, 9**
And he answered and said to him, "Let it alone, sir, for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer; and if it bears fruit next year, fine; but if not, cut it down."

 **Implications and Applications**
1) Suffering and calamity are not distributed according to human merit
2) We should not claim to know cause and effect when we cannot know it
3) In light of the eschatological hour, repentance is the only recourse

1) Suffering and calamity are not distributed according to human merit

■ **Job 1:8, 9**

The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

1) Suffering and calamity are not distributed according to human merit

Theology according to Eliphaz

■ **Job 4:7**

"Remember now, who ever perished being innocent? Or where were the upright destroyed?"

1) Suffering and calamity are not distributed according to human merit

In Job, after chapters of debate with Job's friends about the cause of Job's condition relative to others, God speaks and asks a series of questions that Job cannot possibly answer, leading Job to the conclusion that he cannot contend with God about how He runs His own universe.

Job chapters 40 and 41.

1) Suffering and calamity are not distributed according to human merit

Job, the righteous sufferer, repents!

■ **Job 42:1, 2, 6**

Then Job answered the Lord and said, "I know that You can do all things, And that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted. . . Therefore I retract, And I repent in dust and ashes."

1) Suffering and calamity are not distributed according to human merit


■ **Job 42:7**

It came about after the Lord had spoken these words to Job, that the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is kindled against you and against your two friends, because you have not spoken of Me what is right as My servant Job has."

2) We should not claim to know cause and effect when we cannot know it


■ **John 9:1, 2**

As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?"

 2) We should not claim to know cause and effect when we cannot know it


■ **John 9:3**

Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

 2) We should not claim to know cause and effect when we cannot know it

■ **Hababbuk 1:13**

Your eyes are too pure to approve evil,
And You can not look on wickedness with favor. Why do You look with favor On those who deal treacherously? Why are You silent when the wicked swallow up Those more righteous than they?

 3) In light of the eschatological hour, repentance is the only recourse

■ **Habakkuk 2:3, 4**

For the vision is yet for the appointed time; It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; For it will certainly come, it will not delay. Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith.

3) In light of the eschatological hour,
repentance is the only recourse

■ **Romans 3:3, 4**

What then? If some did not believe, their unbelief will not nullify the faithfulness of God, will it? May it never be! Rather, let God be found true, though every man be found a liar, as it is written, "That You may be justified in Your words, And prevail when You are judged."

3) In light of the eschatological hour,
repentance is the only recourse

■ **2Peter 3:9, 10a**

The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,
