

July 26, 2020 - Turn to God

In the first part of his sermon, Peter confronted the crowd of people with the conviction that the blood of Jesus was on their hands.

In the second part, we hear the reason for such a conviction - the Lord is seeking their repentance.

Acts 3:17-19

V.17 - "acted in ignorance" - God is extending His grace.

V.18 - God is SO gracious that it was God's plan from before creation that His Son would suffer for our salvation.

- God used what He knew beforehand that they were going to do to His Son to bring about the perfect sacrifice for sin.

In verses 13-15, Peter accused the Jews of killing God's Servant, their own Messiah, the Author of life.

God immediately provides His grace by saying through Peter that they acted in ignorance and that it was all God's plan.

V.19 - Then God further extends His grace by calling the people to repent and to turn to God.

To repent and turn is to consciously be sorry for our sin and to willfully turn away from sin and turn to God for His forgiveness.

- "so that" - If a person will NOT repent of their sin and turn to God, their sins will NOT be wiped out by God's forgiveness.

Why does God extend His grace? God is not seeking to condemn and destroy people for their sin; He is seeking their repentance and turning to Him.

- John 3:17

Since the fall of mankind, God has ALWAYS been after people to repent, to turn to Him for forgiveness to be saved from His wrath against their sin.

When God confronts sin, it is not for the purpose of judging, condemning or casting people aside; it is ALWAYS to bring them to repentance.

- 2 Peter 3:9

God did not create people for judgment, but for grace.