



“Return backsliding Israel,” says the LORD, “I will not cause My anger to fall on you. For I am merciful”, says the LORD. “I will not remain angry forever. Only acknowledge your iniquity, that you have transgressed against the LORD your God.” Jeremiah 3:12 – 13

Hardness of heart – it separates families. It separates the best of friends. It separates a person from their God. Hardness of heart blinds a rational person until their ability to perceive truth and reality is severely impaired.

The alternative to Jesus’ abundant life is the thief’s stealing, killing and destroying! (John 10:10). Sin blinds and cripples its host. Before long the heart once tender and obedient to God’s Spirit is now hesitant and unwilling to yield. “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by Whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.” (Ephesians 4:30 NASB) Sin and its accompanying condemnation begin the subtle work of convincing the believer that God is angry with them and that there remains no remedy for them – the lie continues that they have sinned – and the devil’s lie continues, “at least one sin beyond God’s ability or His desire to forgive!”

Don’t ever believe such thoughts! They are lies, lies, lies.

There is always a remedy! But there is only one remedy for hardness of heart – genuine repentance. Repentance is the turning about from the previous direction of living and the prior ways of thinking. Repentance turns away from self and looks to Jesus’ work at Calvary! Repentance – the acknowledging of our sin, our hardness of heart, our rebellion – always brings the manifestation of our gracious God’s mercy and forgiveness.

“Bring forth therefore fruits *fit* for repentance... And now also the ax is laid to the root of the trees:” (Matthew 3:8, 10). Repent until there is a lifestyle change!

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1John 1:9).

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