Why Repentance Works

Joshua Creel · Psalm 143

INTRODUCTION

- Last week in Psalm 6, we began really the first of the penitential Psalms. And this week in 143, we come to the last of the penitential Psalms.
- Like Psalm 6, this penitential psalm seems to fit within the time of Absalom's rebellion.
- What we want to focus on this morning is how could David be so sure. Psalm 143 speaks of why repentance works.

1 Repentance Does Not Work Because of Man

Psalm 143:2; Psalm 143:3–4; Psalm 143:7

- Repentance does not work because of us. Repentance does not work because of how sorrowful we may even become.
- Do not enter into judgment with your servant, for in your sight no man living is righteous.
- Answer me quickly, O Lord. My spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, or I will become like those who go down to the pit.
- David was not looking for forgiveness based on his own merits. He recognized I am not righteous.

2 Repentance Works Because of God and His Covenant

Psalm 143:1; 2 Samuel 7:12–16; Hebrews 10:23

- The word covenant is not found in this psalm. But covenantal language is found throughout this Psalm.
- He is binding himself to us, and then he makes promises to man. And he says to man, follow me, and you will receive these promises.
- You are my God. I am your servant. And so he's appealing to him on that basis.
- God is faithful to his covenant. When God makes a covenant with man, then God keeps his promises.
- It's not because of how glorious man is or how much man can do in response to God. It is because of who God is.
- God would not just forgive man in sin without man coming back to God.

3 Repentance Will Work for Us

- The final point that we would make from this Psalm is that repentance will work for us.
- If you're not in Christ, then you're not in this covenant with God.

MY NOTES