

True repentance (*metanoia*)

- is more than feeling **really, really bad** about something you've done.
- is **reconsidering** your strategy for living.

Verse 3:

Matthew is using a **travel metaphor**.

The road Jesus wants to travel on is the road that leads to your **heart**.

- What is **clogging** the road?
- What is keeping me from **participating** more fully in the kingdom of God?

Verse 4:

John the Baptist is playing the role of **Elijah**.

Jesus is the Messiah they have been waiting for.

Verse 5 & 6:

Repentant people

- are willing to **confess their sins**.
- take seriously the existence of **sin** and its ability to **destroy life**.
- have given up trying to **convince** others that they're not **sinners**.

Verse 7:

The litmus test of authentic repentance

- "**Bear fruit** worthy of repentance."
- is the bearing of the **fruits of the Spirit**.

Authentic repentance is a restructuring of our lives.



Redeeming Notes

Pastor Dave Glesne December 3, 2006

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Matthew 3:1-8

To restructure requires two things:

- A clear understanding of the **goal**.
- The willingness to **rearrange** everything around activities that will most help achieve that goal.

Verse 2:

"Repent" is the **pivotal announcement** in human history.

"The kingdom has come near" means

- It is now possible to live in the **presence** of God.
- It is now possible to live under the **reign** of God.

Where is this kingdom?

- It is not coming with things that can be **observed**.
- It is **among** you.
- It is among you in the **person of Jesus**.