

**The Word For The Weak**  
 — Weekly Newsletter —  
 By R. C. Theophilus  
*“For when I am weak, then I am strong.”*  
**2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

**NL-04-2023**

**THE WEEK OF:** 12-18 November — In The Acceptable Year of **Christ Jesus Our King** 2023 A.D.

**THE WORD IS:** “PENITENCE”

**SAYING THESE THINGS:**

Last night before I fell asleep, the [Lord Holy Spirit](#) reminded me to pray and ask **Jesus** for this weeks’s Word For The Weak. I barely had the prayer finished and was saying “Amen” when I began to hear this word:

“PENITENCE.”

After confirming what I heard with the Lord, I immediately sent an email to myself with that word in order to have a record. Then I was able to get to sleep.

This morning I still “penitence” in my memory, and will now begin to analyze why the [Lord](#) has chosen that Word for this time.

One of the dictionaries (Oxford) I have at my disposal defines **penitence** as:

*“noun [mass noun] — the action of feeling or showing sorrow and regret for having done wrong; repentance: ‘a public display of penitence.’”*

In my Olive Tree Bible (for Mac), the text found in Isaiah 63:15 - 64:12 is described as a prayer of penitence, as follows:

**The Book of Isaiah**  
**Chapters 63 and 64**  
**Verses 15 Through 12**  
*(A Prayer of Penitence)*

**15** Look down from heaven,  
 And see from Your habitation, holy and glorious.

Where are Your zeal and Your strength,  
 The yearning of Your heart and Your mercies toward me?

Are they restrained?

**16** Doubtless You are our Father,  
 Though Abraham was ignorant of us,  
 And Israel does not acknowledge us.

You, O LORD, are our Father;  
 Our **Redeemer** from **Everlasting** is Your name.

**17** O LORD, why have You made us stray from Your ways,  
 And hardened our heart from Your fear?

Return for Your servants' sake,  
 The tribes of Your inheritance.

**18** Your holy people have possessed it but a little while;  
 Our adversaries have trodden down Your sanctuary.

**19** We have become like those of old, over whom You never ruled,  
 Those who were never called by Your name.

**1** Oh, that You would rend the heavens!

That You would come down!

That the mountains might shake at Your presence—

**2** As fire burns brushwood,  
 As fire causes water to boil—  
 To make Your name known to Your adversaries,  
 That the nations may tremble at Your presence!

**3** When You did awesome things for which we did not look,  
You came down,  
 The mountains shook at Your presence.

**4** For since the beginning of the world  
 Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear,

Nor has the eye seen any God besides You,  
Who acts for the one who waits for Him.

**5** You meet him who rejoices and does righteousness,  
Who remembers You in Your ways.

You are indeed angry, for we have sinned—  
In these ways we continue;  
And we need to be saved.

**6** But we are all like an unclean thing,  
And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;  
We all fade as a leaf,  
And our iniquities, like the wind,  
Have taken us away.

**7** And there is no one who calls on Your name,  
Who stirs himself up to take hold of You;  
For You have hidden Your face from us,  
And have consumed us because of our iniquities.

**8** But now, O LORD,  
You are our Father;  
We are the clay, and You our potter;  
And all we are the work of Your hand.

**9** Do not be furious, O LORD,  
Nor remember iniquity forever;  
Indeed, please look—we all are Your people!

**10** Your holy cities are a wilderness,  
Zion is a wilderness,  
Jerusalem a desolation.

**11** Our holy and beautiful temple,  
Where our fathers praised You,  
Is burned up with fire;  
And all our pleasant things are laid waste.

**12** Will You restrain Yourself because of these things, O LORD?

Will You hold Your peace, and afflict us very severely?

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I observed that a synonymous word for penitence is “repent”. The Scripture is replete with the Doctrine of Repentance. Here are a few samples.

**Matthew 3:7-9**

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of **repentance**, 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

**Mark 2:17**

17 When Jesus heard it, He said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to **repentance**.”

**Luke 24:46-47**

46 Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that **repentance** and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

The word “**repent**” occurs twelve times in the Book of Revelation. Eight of these occurrences are directed to the Church (see Rev. 2:5-3:19). Does this not show that the Church has the greater burden to **repent**?

May our Father grant us His Light to Know, Live, and Love His **Word**.

Amen.

THE WORD FOR THE WEAK NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON THE SIXTH DAY OF THE WEEK  
— “VERY GOOD” —