

22 April 2012 - Preached by Elder Douglas Ho

Message Topic: **Doctrine of Repentance and Faith**

Scripture Text: Acts 20: 16-21

1. Christians cannot be those who merely professed that they have believed. An almost Christian is one that says he believes in Christ but also believes in other gods. He hates evil in society, but doesn't recognize sin in his own life. He can also be one who has followed Christ for many years but in the end decided to go back to the world.

2. Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace whereby we receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation. Repentance unto life is a saving grace whereby a sinner out of a true sense of his sin and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth with grief and hatred of his sin turn from it unto God with full purpose and endeavor after new obedience.

3. Repentance and faith are inseparable graces, and they work at the same time. But they are very different from one another. They are also duty for believers to act on. There are two kinds of repentance:

- a. Sorrow of sin (which can lead to suicide like Judas) – this is false repentance
- b. Change in life (like Paul) – this is true repentance

4. Submission to the lordship of Jesus Christ is true repentance. We know that our sins are forgiven by repentance. We will then be encouraged to walk even closer to God and will strive not to commit the same sin again.

5. Faith can mean two things:

- a. Subjective faith (act of believing)
- b. Objective faith (Christian faith as taught in the Holy Scripture)