



RAISING SAMUEL

SERMON SERIES

SPRING_2021

**THE CALLED
UNDERSTAND
REPENTANCE**



³So Samuel said to all the Israelites, “If you are returning to the LORD with all your hearts, then rid yourselves of the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths and commit yourselves to the LORD and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.” ⁴So the Israelites put away their Baals and Ashtoreths, and served the LORD only.

⁵Then Samuel said, “Assemble all Israel at Mizpah, and I will intercede with the LORD for you.”

1 Samuel 7:1-14 (NIV)



⁶When they had assembled at Mizpah, they drew water and poured it out before the LORD. On that day they fasted and there they confessed, “We have sinned against the LORD.” Now Samuel was serving as leader of Israel at Mizpah. ⁷When the Philistines heard that Israel had assembled at Mizpah, the rulers of the Philistines came up to attack them. When the Israelites heard of it, they were afraid because of the Philistines.

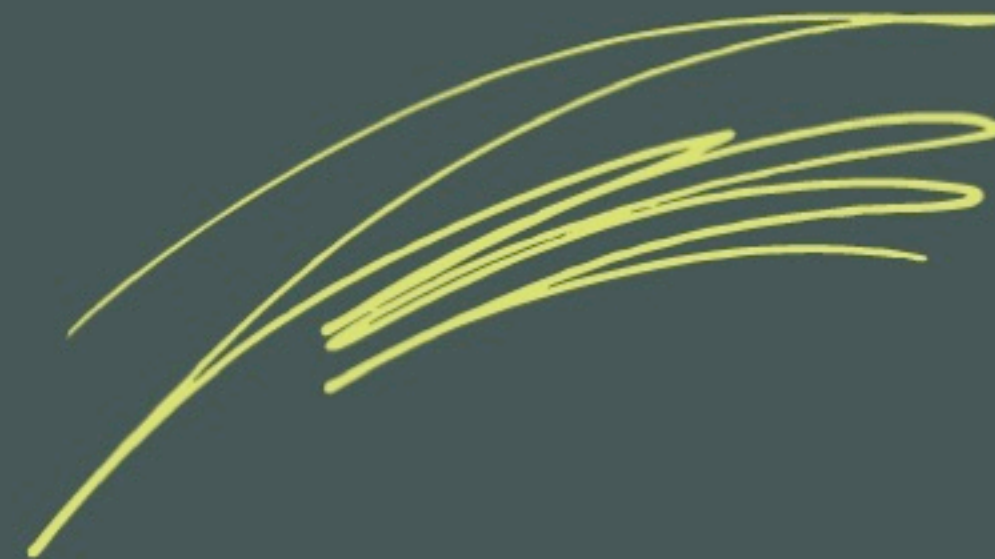
1 Samuel 7:1-14 (NIV)



⁸They said to Samuel, “Do not stop crying out to the LORD our God for us, that he may rescue us from the hand of the Philistines.”⁹Then Samuel took a suckling lamb and sacrificed it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD. He cried out to the LORD on Israel’s behalf, and the LORD answered him.

¹⁰While Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to engage Israel in battle.

1 Samuel 7:1-14 (NIV)



¹¹The men of Israel rushed out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, slaughtering them along the way to a point below Beth Kar. ¹²Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the LORD has helped us.” ¹³So the Philistines were subdued and they stopped invading Israel’s territory. Throughout Samuel’s lifetime, the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines.

1 Samuel 7:1-14 (NIV)



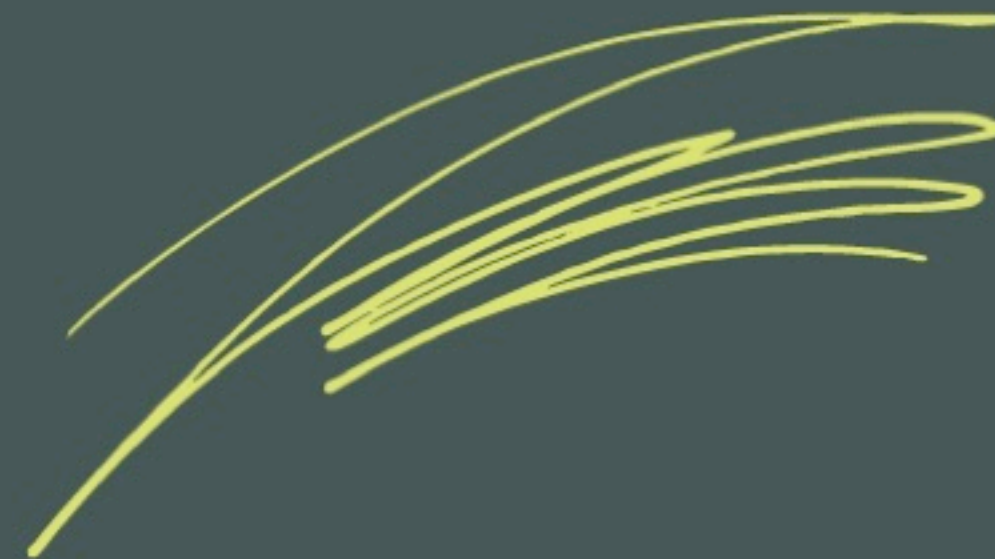
¹⁴The towns from Ekron to Gath that the Philistines had captured from Israel were restored to Israel, and Israel delivered the neighboring territory from the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites.

1 Samuel 7:1-14 (NIV)



Getting Right With God Stops Us from Falling Into the:

1. Inspiration Trap
2. Complacency Trap



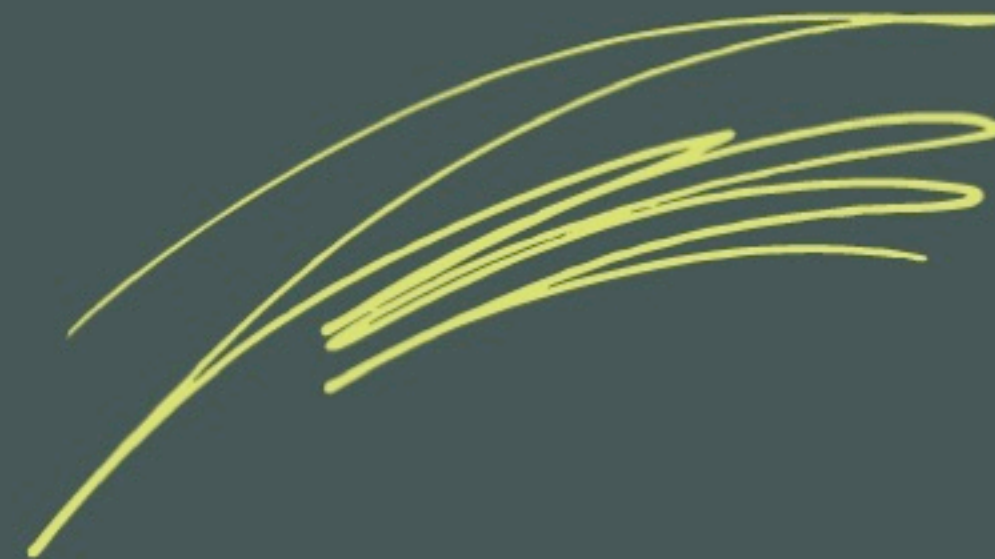
When We
Turn, He
Returns



Repentance: Confessing and turning away from evil and turning toward good.

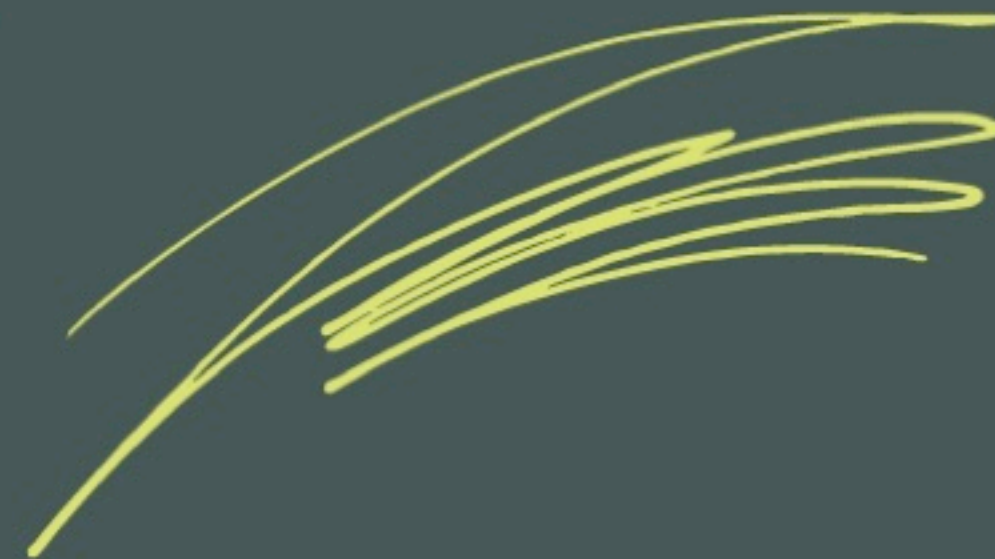
If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9 (NIV)

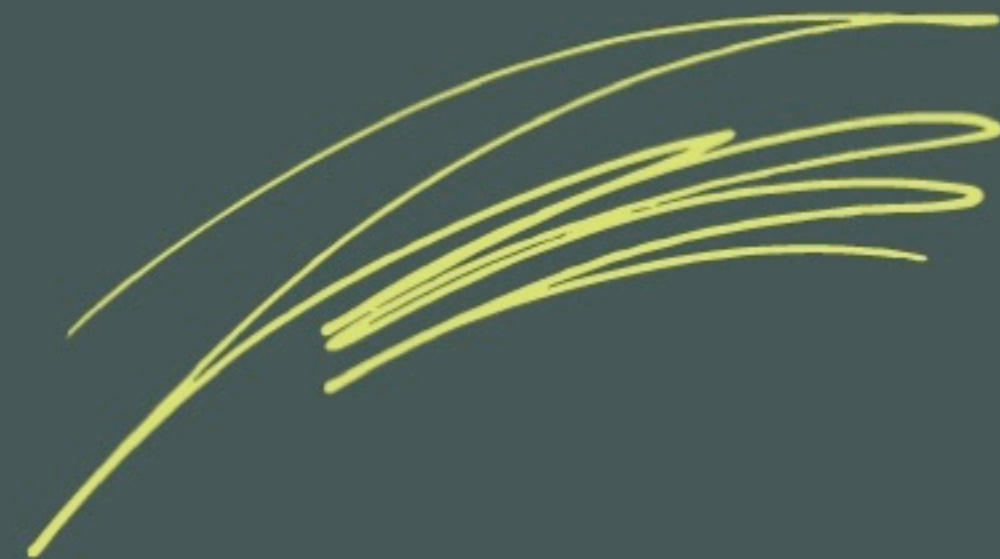


“We must correctly distinguish regret, remorse, and true repentance. Regret is an activity of the mind; whenever we remember what we’ve done, we ask ourselves, “Why did I do that?” Remorse includes both the heart and the mind, and we feel disgust and pain, but we don’t change our ways. But true repentance includes the mind, the heart, and the will. We change our minds about our sins and agree with what God says about them; we abhor ourselves because of what we have done; and we deliberately turn from our sin and turn to the Lord for His mercy.”

Warren Wiersbe



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As God's children, we often struggle with the fullness of His sacrifice and forgiveness and underestimate His desire to put the past behind us.



¹⁸“Come now, let us settle the matter,”
says the LORD. “Though your sins
are like scarlet, they shall be as white
as snow; though they are red as
crimson, they shall be like wool.

Isaiah 1:18 (NIV)







When He
Returns,
He Helps



“If you uproot the idol and fail to ‘plant’ the love of Christ in its place, the idol will grow back.”

Author of the *New York Times* Bestseller
The Reason for God

TIMOTHY KELLER



WHEN THE EMPTY PROMISES OF LOVE,
MONEY AND POWER LET YOU DOWN