

I. Know the Plan - 2 Peter 3:16-18, Acts 2

The next passage we glossed was Acts 2 with emphasis on Peter's sermon to the alien Jews visiting Jerusalem for the festival of Pentecost. In his exhortation he revealed to them that "God has made Him both Lord and Christ-this Jesus whom you have crucified."

Acts 2:38 (New American Standard Version) - And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

The word "*repent*" is the aorist active imperative of the verb: *metanoeo* - "a change of mind;" literally, meta implies "a change after the fact." What the change follows is "*perception*" indicated by *noeo*.

Noeo comes from a noun which is very familiar to you: *Nous* - The left, lobe, the mind, the stage of perception known as "*academic understanding*." This is where gnosis is acquired.

Thus, repentance is a change of mental attitude after having acquired academic understanding of an issue.

In the vernacular of our study, repentance is a positive volitional response to *gnosis*.

You have established ideas regarding a given issue, but after having acquired academic understanding which sheds new light on the subject, you change your mind as a result.

Peter's sermon beginning in Acts 2:22 has been a lucid presentation of facts which reveal that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah.

He is speaking to the Jewish population milling in the streets of Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost—Jews who gave their complicit approval of the crucifixion of Jesus as a blasphemer.

After having clearly explained to them that He was indeed both Lord and Christ, the Jews, convicted within their conscience of their error, ask of Peter what they are to do.

Peter's first word is, *metanoeo*: a command to change their minds based on what they have just academically understood about Jesus being the Christ.

I state this in the plural because that is what we have here. The command is in the second personal plural and can therefore be translated, "All of you change your minds about Jesus as the Christ."