

The background of the slide features a large, waving American flag on the left side, set against a sunset sky with warm orange and yellow tones. In the lower right foreground, three dark wooden crosses are visible, with the central one being the largest and most prominent. The overall mood is solemn and reflective.

AMERICA – A CALL TO REPENT

LUKE 13:1-9

Eternity

- **James 4:13-14** - ¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit” — ¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.
- **Revelation 22:12-13** - ¹² “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Repent or Perish

- What does it mean to repent?
- Is it sincere?
- **Repentance** - A feeling of regret, a changing of the mind, or a turning from sin to God. (Holman Bible Dictionary)

Repentance consists of:

1. A true sense of one's own guilt and sinfulness
2. An appreciation of God's mercy in Christ
3. An actual hatred of sin and turning from it to God
4. A persistent endeavor after a holy life in a walking with God in the way of his commandments.

We All Must Make a Choice

- **2 Corinthians 7:10** - ¹⁰ For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.
- **Revelation 21:8** - ⁸ But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”
- **WE ALL MUST MAKE A CHOICE IN LIFE – REPENT OR PERISH**

Repent or Perish



God's Call for Repentance

- **2 Chronicles 7:14** - if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.
- **Proverbs 14:34** - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Men of Nineveh Repented

Jonah 3:6-10 - ⁶The word reached^l the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, “By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, ⁸but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. ⁹Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.”

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

America – Repent Before it is Too Late

- **Matthew 12:42** - The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

God Shows No Favoritism – One Judgement For All

- **Luke 13:1-5** - There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

Repent or Perish

- **Luke 13:3** - No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.
- **Luke 13:5** - ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

3 Reasons People Fail to Repent

1. Pride

2. Ignorance

3. Laziness

Pride

- **Isaiah 3:9:**

The look on their faces testifies against them;
they parade their sin like Sodom;
they do not hide it.

Woe to them!

They have brought disaster upon themselves.

Pride

- **Proverbs 16:18** - Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.
- **1 John 2:16** - For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world.
- **Psalms 59:12** - For the sin of their mouths, the words of their lips, let them be trapped in their pride.

PRIDE will
cost you
EVERYTHING
but leave
you with
NOTHING!!

Ignorance

- **Acts 17:30-31** - ³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”
- **Romans 1:18-20** - ¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

Laziness

- **2 Thessalonians 3:6** - ⁶ Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us.
- **Ephesians 5:15-17** - Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.
- **James 4:17** - So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

No Time Like the Present

- **Luke 13:6-9** - ⁶ And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷ And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ ⁸ And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹ Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Good News For Everyone

- **Psalm 103:8** - The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- **2 Peter 3:9** - The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.



Frodo: "I wish none of this had happened."

Gandalf: "So do all who live to see such times, but that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to us."

J.R.R. Tolkien