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Jonah's message called them to repent so they might be spared. Their repentance did not follow salvation; it sought the mercy preached to them.

Acts 2:38 therefore does not teach baptism because forgiveness has already been received. The context shows people seeking salvation, being told what to do, and then gladly receiving the word and being baptized (Acts 2:41). Repentance and baptism are joined together for the desired result: the remission of sins.

Lift Up in Prayer

Pray for the leaders of the world as they navigate complex challenges with wisdom, courage, and peace; Archie's recovery from surgery, asking for healing, strength, and comfort; Yu Bedwell's uncle as he undergoes cancer treatment, asking for endurance, effective care, and God's peace; David's four children, that they would grow in salvation, faith, and obedience; Alondra and her pregnancy, asking for health, protection, and success throughout this journey; Jonathan's wife as she undergoes chemotherapy, asking for God's healing, comfort, and strength; Caleb and Carissa Pierce as they enter a new season as long-term caregivers for a sweet baby boy they are calling Beau; Jim as he departs the Army and transitions into the civilian sector, asking for direction, provision, and peace; Isaiah Whalen has found a ministry role, asking God to grant him clarity, strength, and favor in every step; God would strengthen and unite Western Hills Christian Church, guiding its leaders, encouraging its members, and helping the congregation serve with love, wisdom, and one heart; **Bob Smithson as he recovers from a stroke, asking for healing, perseverance, and support; Jason R. Tucker's recovery after an assault by a motorcycle club, asking for physical healing, emotional strength, and protection; Robert Medlock's family, asking for spiritual strength, unity, and peace.** In Jesus' name, Amen.

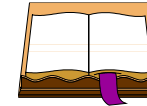
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Bible Study 10:00

Sunday Worship 11:00

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel (Sanctuary)



Wednesday Bible Study 18:30

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel

Rooms: 143 (Adults)

164 (Children)

September 20, 2026

No. 473

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31)

"For the Remission of Sins"

A brief study of Acts 2:38

By Terry Wane Benton

Some argue that the word "for" in Acts 2:38 means "because of," as if Peter told the people to repent and be baptized because they already had remission of sins. They compare it to taking ibuprofen "for" a headache: the headache already exists, so the medicine is taken because of it.

But the illustration does not fit Acts 2. Ibuprofen is taken to relieve a headache, not to celebrate one. Likewise, the people in Acts 2 were not rejoicing over sins already remitted. They had asked, "What shall we do?" Peter answered by commanding repentance and baptism "for the remission of sins." In verse 40 he continued urging them to "be saved," showing that the blessing still lay ahead.

(Continue page 2)

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The same point is clear from repentance. Were they told to repent because they already had remission, or in order to receive it? Scripture consistently places repentance before the blessing. God grants “repentance unto life” (Acts 11:18). Jesus warned, “Except you repent, you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). Peter later said, “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:19). Remission does not come before repentance; repentance leads toward the remission sinners need.

This also agrees with Matthew 26:28, where Jesus said His blood was shed “for the remission of sins.” He did not die because remission had already been received; He died to make forgiveness possible. The same forward-looking sense fits Acts 2:38.

A better illustration would be this: “What shall I do for a headache?” “Take ibuprofen for relief.” The action is taken to obtain the needed relief. In Acts 2, the people had sins that needed remitting. Peter told them to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for that remission.

Some appeal to Matthew 12:41, where Nineveh repented at Jonah’s preaching, but that example still points forward. **(Continue page 4)**



Notes:

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Totals for

September 13, 2026

Attendance:

35

Contribution:

279.00 Dollars

55,000 KRW