



ASH, WEDNESDAY: Mercy in Ashes





therefore I despise myself, and repent <u>in dust and ashes</u>. - Job 42:6



Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and **pleas for mercy** with fasting and <u>sackcloth</u> and <u>ashes</u>. - Daniel 9:3



O daughter of <u>my people, put on sackcloth,</u> <u>and roll in ashes</u>; make mourning as for an only son, most bitter lamentation, for suddenly the destroyer will come upon us.

- Jeremiah 6:26

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"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in <u>sackcloth</u> and <u>ashes</u>.

- Matthew 11:21



Why are ashes a symbol of repentance?



... till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for <u>you are dust,</u> <u>and to dust you shall return</u>."

- Genesis 3:19



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The Reason of Repentance:

Our Sin



"Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." **Return** to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

- Joel 2:12-13

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If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. - 1 John 1:8



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The Reason of Repentance:

God's Mercy



Return to the LORD your God, for <u>he is gracious</u> and <u>merciful</u>, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

- Joel 2:13



For our sake he made him <u>to be sin</u> who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. - 2 Corinthians 5:21



... the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

- 1 John 1:7



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If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to **forgive us our sins** and to **cleanse us** from all

unrighteousness.

- 1 John 1:9





The Reason of Repentance:

Today and Continually



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