

## Repentance → Restoration 1 Samuel 7

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### Repentance or Rebellion...

#### 1. Will Israel repent or continue to rebel?

*It was a long time...and all the people of  
Israel mourned and sought after the Lord.*  
1 Samuel 7:2

*“If you are returning to the Lord with all  
your heart, then...”* v. 3

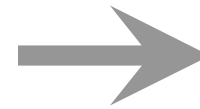
**There is genuine confession and  
repentance.** v. 4-6

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#### 2. Israel’s repentance is perceived as rebellion.

- **There is an immediate threat to Israel.** (v. 7)
- **This time there is a proper response by Israel.** (v. 8-9)



#### 3. God thunders against the Philistines.

- **God fights for his people.** (v. 10)
- **God wins.** (v. 11)

#### 4. Samuel acknowledges God as the One who saves.

- **The event is marked with a stone – Ebenezer!** (v.12)
  - **Israel’s restoration is linked to their repentance.** (v. 13-17)
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Repentance → Restoration



***Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.***

***Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him, and in whose spirit is no deceit.***

***When I kept silent, my bones wasted through my groaning all day long.***

***For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; My strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.***

***Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord" – and you forgave the guilt of my sin.***

Psalm 32:1-5

## Things to Think About

**What are the things that prevent you from “returning to the Lord with all your heart?”**

**What would a whole-hearted return to the Lord look like for you?**

**What are the ‘foreign gods’ that keep us distracted and distanced from God?**

**Even though the Israelites do everything right, still they come under enemy attack. Have you had similar experiences? How do you make sense of this?**

**Have you established any stones or markers as a way of acknowledging God’s help in desperate times?**

**When you sincerely confess and ask for forgiveness, do you feel forgiven? Why or why not?**

**What did it feel like to see your ‘sins’ shredded in the shredder?**

Scripture passages from the NIV unless otherwise noted.

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