

REPENTANCE

A Doctrinal Bible Study



A.D. 96.

bottomless pit, whose name in the
Hē-brēw tongue is *Ā-bād'-dōn*, but
in the Grēek tongue hath *his* name
¹ *Ā-pōl'-lŷ-ōn*.

when a lion roareth: and when he
had cried, ^aseven thunders uttered
their voices.
And when the seven thunders

A.D. 96.

^a ch. 8. 5.
^b 2 Ki. 1. 10.
Jer. 1. 10.
Ezek. 43. 3.

Question #1

What is repentance?

Answer: Repentance is regretting your former actions and asking forgiveness for them. It's also, changing your life so that you don't repeat those actions.

Acts 26:20 (KJV)

But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should **repent** and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

The Modern English Translation says "they must turn to God and do works as evidence that they have changed."

True Repentance is turning away from a life of sin and starting a new life without sin. It can also be described as changing the direction of your life as in the parable of the broad path and narrow path, Jesus describes in **Matthew 7:13-14**. When we repent, we are changing our path toward a better future.

^a his feet as pillars of fire:
2 And he had in his hand a little book open: ^aand he set his right foot upon the sea, and *his left foot* on the earth,
3 And cried with a loud voice, as

And ^aI will give power unto my two ^awitnesses, ^aand they shall prophesy ^ba thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.
4 These are the ^ctwo olive trees,

^a ch. 20. 4.
^b ch. 19. 10.
^c ch. 4. 4.
^b ch. 12. 6.
^c Ps. 52. 8.
Jer. 11. 16.
Zech. 4. 3.

Question #2

Is repentance necessary to be saved?

Answer: Yes

Acts 2:38 (KJV)

Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Repentance is the first step in salvation. You must be sorry for your sins and willing to change your life before the other two steps of salvation are applied.

If you are not sincerely sorry for your sins and don't want to live a godly life, then you will not desire baptism or be filled with the Holy Ghost. However, all three steps are essential to salvation.

Question #3

Did Jesus command us to repent?

Answer: Yes

Luke 13:3 (KJV)

I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent**, ye shall all likewise perish.

Jesus was teaching about repentance and He told the people in **Luke 13:3, and again in verse 5**, that they had to repent to be saved. It is essential!

These are the two olive trees,

Question #5

What happens when a person repents?

Answer: There is a physical and a spiritual reaction

Scriptures

Luke 15:10 (KJV)

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that **repenteth**.

The Spiritual reaction is that the angels in heaven rejoice for your decision to live a new Godly life.

2 Cor 5:17 (KJV)

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

The physical reaction is that you receive a new outlook on life. You now have a future that contains the hope for eternal life in heaven.

Psalms 103:12(KJV)

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

When we repent, our sins are removed from us. We might still have to face the earthly consequences of our actions, but spiritually, we have been made new!

Question #6

How does repentance work in my life?

Answer: Repentance is an inward change of the mind that causes an outward change of actions and choices

2 Cor 4:16 (KJV)

For which cause we faint not; but though our **outward man perish**, yet the **inward man is renewed** day by day.

Paul said that as we change our mind (our inward man) we will see a change take place in our actions (our outward man).

If our mind is determined to live a Godly life then physical change will show through our actions as we stop sinning and make more Godly choices for our life.

Question #7

How many times can I repent for my sin?

Answer: Repentance is not limited, we can sincerely repent as much as needed, every day.

It's when repentance is insincere and convenient that it stops being repentance. When a person prays and asks for God's forgiveness but knows in their heart, that they have no intentions of stopping the sin, it becomes insincere and unacceptable to God.

Continued...

Jesus said in **Matthew 15:8** that the people draw close to Him, honoring him with their lips, but their heart is far from Him. In other words; they are saying all the right things, but they really don't mean it.

If we approach God with a sincere heart, He will always be gracious to forgive. The Bible shows us this in **Psalms 103:8** and **Psalms 86:5**. God wants to forgive us, He's just waiting on us to ask!

Question #8

When I repent to God, do I have to apologize to others that I have hurt as well?

Answer: Sincere repentance will cause you to feel remorse for your past actions. There may be some people you'll want to apologize to in order to restore a relationship.

Jesus tells us in **Luke 6:37** to "judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:"

There might be some past issues better off unspoken. But, when the offended party sees the consistent change in your life, it may allow you to earn their trust again and open a door for a renewed relationship in the future.

There is a saying: time heals all wounds. Some people will need time to heal, just like you may need time away from them to heal.

Question #9

What if I apologize and the other person does not accept my apology?

Answer: You are still forgiven in the eyes of God whether they accept your apology or not. Only God can forgive sins, so their lack of forgiveness cannot keep you from being forgiven by God.

Jesus told us in **Luke 6:31** that ***we should do unto others as we would have them do unto us***. Meaning treat people the way you would want them to treat you, not the way they are treating you.

Be kind and pray for them because that is what you would want them to do for you if the roles were reversed.

Sometimes your kindness or apology might not be accepted, so all you can do is pray for them and let Jesus heal the wounds in both of you.

