

Genuine Repentance

2 Corinthians 7:1-16



Repentance Is Commanded

- By John. Matthew 3:2, 7-8
- By Jesus. Matthew 4:17; Luke 13:3,5
- Great Commission. Luke 24:47
- By Disciples. Mark 6:12
- By Apostles. Acts 2:38; 11:18

Dictionary Definition:

- *metanoia* – “a change of mind for the better, heartily to AMEND with abhorrence of one’s past sins.” (Thayer, 405)
- “This change of mind involves BOTH a turning from sin and a turning to God.” (W.E. Vine, Volume 3, page 281)
- “John did not call on people to be sorry, but to change their mental attitudes AND CONDUCT.” (A.T. Robertson, *Word Pictures*, Volume 1, page 24)

Examples Of Repentance

- Jews on Pentecost. Acts 2
- Ninevites. Matthew 12:41; cf. Jonah 3:10
- Rebellious son. Matthew 21:28-32
- Prodigal son. Luke 15:11-21
- Thessalonians turned from idols. 1 Thessalonians 1:9
- Ephesians burned their books. Acts 19:19
- Jailor “washed their stripes.” Acts 16:33
- Corinthians turned from former practices. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

- These all brought forth fruit worthy of repentance!

cf. Luke 3:8; Acts 26:19-20

- Those who did not bring forth fruit worthy of repentance!
2 Corinthians 12:20-21;
Revelation 9:20-21

What Produces Repentance?

- Bible preaching, cf. Jonah 3:1-2
 - “Preach the preaching that I bid thee.” cf. Luke 11:32
 - God’s word cuts like a sword. Hebrews 4:12
 - Pricks (Acts 2:37) and cuts (Acts 7:54-60)
- The goodness of God. Romans 2:4
- The Judgment to come. Acts 17:30-31
- Godly sorrow. 2 Corinthians 7:10; cf. Matthew 26:69-27:5

Two Kinds Of Sorrow 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

- **Godly sorrow...**
Sorrow that looks to God.
 - Example of David. 2 Samuel 11
 - “Thou art the man...” 2 Samuel 12:7
 - “Thou despised the word of Jehovah...” 2 Samuel 12:9
 - “Thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of Jehovah to blaspheme.” 2 Samuel 12:14
 - “I have sinned against Jehovah...” 2 Samuel 12:13

Two Kinds Of Sorrow 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

- **Godly sorrow...**
Sorrow that looks to God.

David’s sorrow. Psalms 51:1-3

“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions; and my sin is ever before me.”

Two Kinds Of Sorrow 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

- **Godly sorrow...**
Sorrow that looks to God.

David’s sorrow. Psalms 51:16-17

“For thou delightest not in sacrifice; else would I give it: Thou hast no pleasure in burnt-offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and contrite heart. O God, thou wilt not despise.”

Two Kinds Of Sorrow 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

- **Godly sorrow...**
Sorrow that looks to God.
 - Peter’s sorrow. Luke 22:31ff; cf. 22:54-62
 - Prodigal’s sorrow. Luke 15

Two Kinds Of Sorrow 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

- **Sorrow of the world...**
Brings regret, but not salvation. Not sorrow because the sin is an offence to God.
- **Examples:**
 - Cain. Genesis 4:13
 - King Saul. 1 Samuel 15:30
 - Judas. Matthew 27:3-5

Two Kinds Of Sorrow 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

■ Sorrow of the world...

- Has no shame or grief for the cause of the sorrow.
- Has no reformation of life tied to it. (Continues to sin as long as it can escape consequences.)
- Never eradicates sin.

Fruits of Repentance - "For behold..." 2 Corinthians 7:11

■ Can see the effects of repentance!

- *Earnest care* – Haste (with care) to correct sin. No longer indifferent, proud or arrogant.
- *Clearing* – Diligent change answered critics. No doubt about one's attitude toward past sins.

Fruits of Repentance - "For behold..." 2 Corinthians 7:11

- *Indignation* – Displeasure over previous sin.
 - Sin must be viewed as an insult to God and as that which eternally bars one from His presence. cf. Genesis 39:9.
- *Fear* – Dread of divine wrath. 2 Corinthians 5:11
- *Longing* – Earnest desire to do & be right.

Fruits of Repentance - "For behold..." 2 Corinthians 7:11

- *Zeal* – Fervent spirit, not apathetic neglect, zeal in pursuing the right course.
- *Avenging* – Sin no longer tolerated. Sin is an act of injustice.
- *Approved yourselves to be pure* – Pure in the matter.

Conclusion:

- Paul is comforted with the repentance of the Corinthians. 2 Corinthians 7:13-16
 - Titus brings good news. (cf. verse 6)
 - Titus' affection had grown for them when he saw their penitent, humble attitude toward their sin.
 - Paul rejoiced and of good courage (cf. verse 4)
- Genuine repentance always brings forth "JOY." Luke 15