

***True belief in Jesus Christ
is only possible when faith (repentance)
in Him and His word takes place.***

Godly sorrow is revealed when we decide to live according to the Bible. Each time we are faced with an aspect of our life that does not align with God's truth, we must repent (*turn*) from that way of thinking, and begin to apply God's principles in our life.

To not apply God's principles in our life, is to miss the purpose of biblical faith.

Is repentance necessary for salvation?

Without it there is no faith, and without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6).

We receive salvation because we have decided to "look" on Jesus Christ as the only One capable of attaining our redemption. That means accepting Him on His terms; this is repentance.

- ♦ John 6:40a (NIV) "For my father's will is that everyone who *looks to* the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life."
- ♦ John 6:29 (NIV) Jesus answered, "The *work* of God is this: to *believe* in the one he has sent."

Repentance

Can we
get to
heaven
with out
it?

What is repentance?

- Repentance is not religion.
- Repentance is not being perfect.
- Repentance is not getting your act together.

Repentance is a definite decision to see everything God's way.

This is what a real sincere confession towards Jesus Christ is all about. This definite decision, is a definite "turn" in your thinking process. You have decided that what God's says, is true; regardless of what you hear, see, or feel. *(Read and consider Romans 3:4)*

The beginning of atonement is the sense of its necessity. --Lord Byron

It is impossible for a man to be freed from the habit of sin before he hates it, just as it is impossible to receive forgiveness before confessing his trespasses... --Ignatius

Men tell us in these days that sin is what you think it is. Well, it is not. Sin is what God thinks it is. You may think according to your own conscience. God thinks according to His. --John G. Lake

Any concept of grace that makes us feel more comfortable sinning is not biblical grace. God's grace never encourages us to live in sin, on the contrary, it empowers us to say no to sin and yes to truth.--Randy Alcorn

We have a strange illusion that mere time cancels sin. But mere time does nothing either to the fact or to the guilt of a sin. --CS Lewis

Look And Live

Numbers 21:8-9 (NIV) The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can *look at* it and live." ...Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

Let's imagine ourselves in this situation. Poisonous snakes have bitten everyone, and while we are not dead yet, the prospects do not look good. Suddenly a voice yells out: "We must do something. We must save ourselves!" But how? Various ideas surface such as: "If you run around in frantic activity it will work out the poison!" A few people try this, and die trying. Others, by staring at their bites, go totally berserk into a frenzy of panic. Alternately, some try to convince themselves that they are not bitten, or that the snakes were not poisonous, and form little groups to delude each other while dying. And here's a person selling "snake oil" which purports to be an antitoxin, but makes people even worse.

Enter Moses who says, "If you look at the bronze snake that has been lifted up on this pole, you will live. If you do not, no matter what else you do, you will die." Now let's really picture how we might react, having been given this revelation. "He must be kidding," we would think. "Do nothing? Just look? How insulting a solution! What part do we play in it?" Moses responds, "Cease your activities. Just look, and live!" Really now, if you had been there, would you have believed it? Do you believe God's solution today?

John 3:14 (NIV) [Jesus:] "Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up."

We all have been bitten, and sin is coursing through our veins. It will most certainly lead to death. There is only one solution, but it is an offense to our ability to save ourselves.