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Repentance is central to the gospel message.

- *“John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” (Mark 1:4, ESV)*
- *“Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”” (Mark 1:14–15, ESV)*

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Repentance is central to the gospel message.

- *“Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance.” (Acts 26:19–20, ESV)*

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μετάνοια, -οίας, ἡ, (μετανοέω) a change of mind: as it appears in one who repents of a purpose he has formed or of something he has done, Heb. 12:17 on which see εὐρίσκω, 3 ([Thuc. 3, 36, 3]; Polyb. 4, 66, 7; Plut. Peric. c. 10; mor. p. 26 a.; τῆς ἀδελφοκτονίας μετάνοια, Joseph. antt. 13, 11, 3); esp. the change of mind of those who have begun to abhor their errors and misdeeds, and have determined to enter upon a better course of life, so that it embraces both a recognition of sin and sorrow for it and hearty amendment, the tokens and effects of which are good deeds

**Joseph Henry Thayer**

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- *“For even if I made you grieve with my letter, I do not regret it—though I did regret it, for I see that that letter grieved you, though only for a while. As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us. For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter. (2 Corinthians 7:8–11, ESV)*

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Repentance involves profound sorrow

- Factors
  - The Holiness of God
  - The destructive, putrefying, corrupting, nature of sin.
    - Adam and Eve
    - David
    - Ananias and Sapphira
    - Southern Kingdom leading up to the Babylonian captivity

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7

Repentance involves profound sorrow

Examples:

- *“Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body also. For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away.” (Psalm 31:9–10, ESV)*

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8

Repentance involves profound sorrow

Examples:

- *“For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah” (Psalm 32:3–5, ESV)*
- Psalm 38

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9

There is a sharp distinction between godly and worldly sorrow.

- *“For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10, ESV)*
  - *Biblical repentance results in salvation from condemnation and positions one to move into the future in freedom.*
    - Godly sorrow produces biblical confession of my sin.
    - I choose to trust in God’s revealed Word that He has forgiven me.
    - I walk into the future with God’s assessment my behavior and act accordingly.

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10

There is a sharp distinction between godly and worldly sorrow.

- *“For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10, ESV)*
  - *Worldly sorrow locks one in a hopeless loop of self condemnation and as a result destructive behaviors.*
    - Simple admission of sin is not biblical confession and therefore does not produce repentance.
    - Being sorry you got caught does not produce repentance.

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11

There is a sharp distinction between godly and worldly sorrow.

- *“For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10, ESV)*
  - *Worldly sorrow locks one in a hopeless loop of self condemnation and as a result destructive behaviors.*
    - Worldly sorrow will be marked by:
      - Victim mentality
      - Excuses for the behavior
      - Resentment for being found out.

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12

There is a sharp distinction between godly and worldly sorrow.

- *“For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.” (2 Corinthians 7:10, ESV)*
  - *Worldly sorrow locks one in a hopeless loop of self-condemnation and as a result destructive behaviors.*
    - *This “worldly sorrow” may be the result of self-imposed guilt.*
    - *Conviction of sin comes from the Holy Spirit as He reveals to us how we have transgressed God’s revealed Word.*

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13

There is a sharp distinction between godly and worldly sorrow.

- *Conviction of sin comes from the Holy Spirit as He reveals to us how we have transgressed His revealed Word.*
- *Some common areas of self-imposed guilt.*
  - *Child exploitation*
  - *Sexual assault*
  - *Parent of a rebellious child*
  - *Failure to meet someone’s unrealistic or inappropriate expectation.*

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14

There is a sharp distinction between godly and worldly sorrow.

- *Conviction of sin comes from the Holy Spirit as He reveals to us how we have transgressed His revealed Word.*
- *Two questions to consider to determine between godly and world sorrow in the occasion of self-imposed guilt.*
  - *Does the guilt have a clear and specific object?*
  - *How much control did I have over what happened?*

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15

Repentance produced by this godly grief is characterized by decisive, deliberate, ruthless dealing with our sinful behavior.

- *“For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.” (2 Corinthians 7:11, ESV)*
  - Earnestness-giving quick decisive attention to a matter
  - Eagerness to clear yourselves- immediate steps to re-establish right relationship with God.
  - Indignation-utter disgust and contempt for my sinful behavior

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Repentance produced by this godly grief is characterized by decisive, deliberate, ruthless dealing with our sinful behavior.

- *“For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.” (2 Corinthians 7:11, ESV)*
  - Fear-return to the fear of God that leads us to keep His commandments.
  - Longing-a deep and sincere desire to honor and obey Christ.
  - Zeal-enthusiastically abandon the sin and embrace righteousness
  - Punishment-embracing God’s verdict on sinful behavior

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Repentance will always have observable, enduring results.

- *“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: Repent and turn away from your idols, and turn away your faces from all your abominations.” (Ezekiel 14:6, ESV)*
- *“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin.” (Ezekiel 18:30, ESV)*

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Repentance will always have observable, enduring results.

- *“Therefore, O King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance.” (Acts 26:19–20, ESV)*
- *“Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.” (Revelation 2:5, ESV)*

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Questions or Comments



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