

~REPENTANCE (4911)

[Hebrew, *na-cham'*, Greek, *me-ta-no-e'o*]

- Human Repentance For Sins
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• The **verb**, repent means, change ones mind with regard to past, or intended action, or conduct, on account of regret or dissatisfaction, or feel regret, contrition, or compunction, for what one has done or omitted to do.

• In many texts this is the thought of the Hebrew *na-cham'*. *Na-cham'* can mean, feel regret, keep a period of mourning, repent.

• And it came about at the time of Pharaoh's sending the people away that God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines just because it was near, for God said; It might be the people will feel **regret** when they see war and will certainly return to Egypt. (**Exodus 13:17**)

• Thus the days became many and the daughter of Shua, Judah's wife, died, and Judah kept the **period of mourning**. After that he went up to the shearers of his sheep, he and Hirah his companion the Adullamite, to Timnah. (**Genesis 38:12**)

• That is why I make a retraction, and I do **repent** in dust and ashes. (**Job 42:6**)

• **Comfort oneself**

• Finally the soul of David the king longed to go out to Absalom, for he had **comforted himself** concerning Amnon, because he was

dead. (2 Samuel 13:39)

- And my anger will certainly come to its finish and I will appease my rage on them and **comfort myself**, and they will have to know that I myself, Yehowah, have spoken in my insistence on exclusive devotion, when I bring my rage to its finish upon them. (Ezekiel 5:13)
- **Relieve oneself**, as of ones enemies.
- Therefore the utterance of the true Lord, Yehowah of armies, the Powerful One of Israel, is; Aha! I shall **relieve myself** of my adversaries, and I will avenge myself on my enemies. (Isaiah 1:24)
- Whether **regret** or **comfort**, it can be seen that a change of mind or feeling is involved.
- In **Greek**, two verbs are used in connection with **repentance**, *me-ta-no-e'o* and *me-ta-me'lo-mai*. The first is composed of *me-ta'*, meaning **after**, and *no-e'o*, related to *nous*, the **mind, disposition, or moral consciousness**, meaning, **perceive, discern, mentally grasp, or be aware**.
- Hence, *me-ta-no-e'o* literally means **after** knowing, in contrast to foreknowing, and signifies a change in ones mind, attitude, or purpose.
- *Me-ta-me'lo-mai*, on the other hand, comes from *me'lo*, meaning **care for or have interest in**. The prefix *me-ta'*, **after**, gives the verb the sense of **regretting**.
- Approaching the second, he said the same. In reply this one said; I will not. Afterwards he felt **regret** and went out. (Matthew 21:30)
- Hence even if I saddened you by my letter, I do not regret it. Even if I did at first **regret** it, I see that that letter saddened you, though but for a little while,
- Hence even if I saddened you by my letter, I do not regret it. Even if I did at first regret it, I see that that letter saddened you, though but for a little while. (2 Corinthians 7:8)
- **Repenting**

- Thus, *me-ta-no-e'o* stresses the changed **viewpoint** or **disposition**, a rejecting of the past or intended course or action as undesirable
- Therefore remember from what you have fallen, and repent and do the former deeds. If you do not, I am coming to you, and I will remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. (**Revelation 2:5**)
- Therefore, continue mindful of how you have received and how you heard, and go on keeping it, and repent. Certainly unless you wake up, I shall come as a thief, and you will not know at all at what hour I shall come upon you. (**Revelation 3:3**)
- While *me-ta-me'lo-mai* lays emphasis on the **feeling** of regret experienced by the person.
- Approaching the second, he said the same. In reply this one said; I will not. Afterwards he felt regret and went out. (**Matthew 21:30**)
- As the **Theological Dictionary of the New Testament** [edited by G. Kittel, Vol. IV, p. 629] comments: **When, therefore, the New Testament separates the meanings of these terms, it displays a clear awareness of the unchangeable substance of both concepts. In contrast, Hellenistic usage often effaced the boundary between the two words. [Translated by G. Bromiley, 1969]**
- Of course, a changed viewpoint often brings with it a changed feeling, or the feeling of regret may precede and lead to a definite change in viewpoint or will.
- But it came about afterward that David's heart kept striking him for the reason that he had cut off the skirt of the sleeveless coat that belonged to Saul. (**1 Samuel 24:5**)
- Hence he said to his men; It is unthinkable, on my part, from Yehowah's standpoint, that I should do this thing to my lord, the anointed of Yehowah, by thrusting out my hand against him, for he is the anointed of Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 24:6**)
- Accordingly David dispersed his men with these words, and he did not allow them to rise up against Saul. As for Saul, he rose up from the cave and kept going on his way. (**1 Samuel 24:7**)

- So the two terms, though having distinct meanings, are closely related.

· Human Repentance For Sins

- The cause making **repentance** necessary is sin, failure to meet God's righteous requirements.

- All unrighteousness is sin, and yet there is a sin that does not incur death. (**1 John 5:17**)

- Since all mankind was sold into sin by Adam, all of his descendants have had need of **repentance**.

- Look! With error I was brought forth with birth pains, and in sin my mother conceived me. (**Psalms 51:5**)

- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (**Romans 3:23**)

- That is why, just as through one man sin entered into the world and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men because they had all sinned. (**Romans 5:12**)

- As shown in the article **RECONCILIATION**, **repentance**, followed by conversion, is a prerequisite for man's being **reconciled** to God.

See Also **RECONCILIATION**

- **Repentance** may be with regard to ones whole life course, a course that has been contrary to God's purpose and will and, instead, has been in harmony with the world under the control of God's Adversary.

- For the time that has passed by is sufficient for you to have worked out the will of the nations when you proceeded in deeds of loose conduct, lusts, excesses with wine, revelries, drinking matches, and illegal idolatries. (**1 Peter 4:3**)

- Do not be loving either the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (**1 John 2:15**)

- **Because everything in the world, the desire of the flesh and the desire of the eyes and the showy display of ones means of life, does not originate with the Father, but originates with the world. (1 John 2:16)**
- **Furthermore, the world is passing away and so is its desire, but he that does the will of God remains forever. (1 John 2:17)**
- **We know we originate with God, but the whole world is lying in the power of the wicked one. (1 John 5:19)**
- **Or it may be with regard to a particular aspect of ones life, a wrong practice marring and staining an otherwise acceptable course, it may be for just a single act of wrongdoing or even a wrong tendency, inclination, or attitude.**
- **Do set a guard, O Yehowah, for my mouth, do set a watch over the door of my lips. (Psalms 141:3)**
- **Do not incline my heart to anything bad, so as to carry on notorious deeds in wickedness with men who are practicing what is hurtful, that I may not feed myself on their dainties. (Psalms 141:4)**
- **There are six things that Yehowah does hate, yes, seven are things detestable to his soul. (Proverbs 6:16)**
- **Lofty eyes, a false tongue, and hands that are shedding innocent blood. (Proverbs 6:17)**
- **A heart fabricating hurtful schemes, feet that are in a hurry to run to badness. (Proverbs 6:18)**
- **A false witness that launches forth lies, and anyone sending forth contentions among brothers. (Proverbs 6:19)**
- **But if you continue showing favoritism, you are working a sin, for you are reproved by the Law as transgressors. (James 2:9)**
- **Come, now, you who say; Today or tomorrow we will journey to this city and will spend a year there, and we will engage in business and make profits. (James 4:13)**
- **Whereas you do not know what your life will be tomorrow. For**

- you are a mist appearing for a little while and then disappearing. (James 4:14)**
- **Instead, you ought to say; If Yehowah wills, we shall live and also do this or that. (James 4:15)**
 - **But now you take pride in your self-assuming brags. All such taking of pride is wicked. (James 4:16)**
 - **Therefore, if one knows how to do what is right and yet does not do it, it is a sin for him. (James 4:17)**
 - **My little children, I am writing you these things that you may not commit a sin. And yet, if anyone does commit a sin, we have a helper with the Father, Jesus Christ, a righteous one. (1 John 2:1)**
 - **The range of faults may therefore be very broad or quite specific.**
 - **Similarly, the extent to which the person deviates from righteousness may be major or minor, and logically the degree of regret ought to be commensurate with the degree of deviation.**
 - **The Israelites went deep in their revolt against Yehowah and were rotting away in their transgressions.**
 - **Return, you people, to the One against whom the sons of Israel have gone deep in their revolt. (Isaiah 31:6)**
 - **You have met up with the one exulting and doing righteousness, those who keep remembering you in your own ways. Look! You yourself became indignant, while we kept sinning, in them a long time, and should we be saved? (Isaiah 64:5)**
 - **And we become like someone unclean, all of us, and all our acts of righteousness are like a garment for periods of menstruation, and we shall fade away like leafage, all of us, and our errors themselves will carry us away just like a wind. (Isaiah 64:6)**
 - **Now as regards you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus you people have said; Because our revolts and our sins are upon us and in them we are rotting away, how, then, shall we keep living? (Ezekiel 33:10)**

- **On the other hand, the apostle Paul speaks of the man who takes some false step before he is aware of it, and counsels that those with spiritual qualifications try to readjust such a man in a spirit of mildness.**
- **Brothers, even though a man takes some false step before he is aware of it, you who have spiritual qualifications try to readjust such a man in a spirit of mildness, as you each keep an eye on yourself, for fear you also may be tempted. (Galatians 6:1)**
- **Since Yehowah mercifully considers the fleshly weakness of his servants, they need not be in a constant state of remorse due to their errors resulting from inherent imperfection.**
- **Yehowah is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness. (Psalms 103:8)**
- **He will not for all time keep finding fault, neither will he to time indefinite keep resentful. (Psalms 103:9)**
- **He has not done to us even according to our sins, nor according to our errors has he brought upon us what we deserve. (Psalms 103:10)**
- **For as the heavens are higher than the earth, this loving-kindness is superior toward those fearing him. (Psalms 103:11)**
- **As far off as the sunrise is from the sunset, so far off from us he has put our transgressions. (Psalms 103:12)**
- **As a father shows mercy to his sons, Yehowah has shown mercy to those fearing him. (Psalms 103:13)**
- **For he himself well knows the formation of us, remembering that we are dust. (Psalms 103:14)**
- **If errors were what you watch, O Yah, o Yehowah, who could stand? (Psalms 130:3)**
- **If they are conscientiously walking in God's ways, they may be joyful.**
- **Always rejoice in the Lord. Once more I will say; Rejoice! (Philippians 4:4)**

- **Let your reasonableness become known to all men. The Lord is near. (Philippians 4:5)**
- **Do not be anxious over anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication along with thanksgiving let your petitions be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)**
- **By this we shall know that we originate with the truth, and we shall assure our hearts before him (1 John 3:19)**
- **As regards whatever our hearts may condemn us in, because God is greater than our hearts and knows all things. (1 John 3:20)**
- **Beloved ones, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have freeness of speech toward God. (1 John 3:21)**
- **And whatever we ask we receive from him, because we are observing his commandments and are doing the things that are pleasing in his eyes. (1 John 3:22)**
- **Repentance** may be on the part of those who already have enjoyed a favorable relationship with God but who have strayed away and suffered the loss of God's favor and blessing.
- **For you were like sheep, going astray, but now you have returned to the shepherd and overseer of your souls. (1 Peter 2:25)**
- **Israel was in a covenant with God they were a holy people chosen from among all the nations.**
- **For you are a holy people to Yehowah your God. It is you Yehowah your God has chosen to become his people, a special property, out of all the peoples that are on the surface of the ground. (Deuteronomy 7:6)**
- **And now if you will strictly obey my voice and will indeed keep my covenant, then you will certainly become my special property out of all other peoples, because the whole earth belongs to me. (Exodus 19:5)**
- **And you yourselves will become to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you are to say to the sons**

of Israel. (**Exodus 19:6**)

- **Christians also came into a righteous standing before God through the New Covenant mediated by Christ.**
- **He did likewise respecting the cup also, after he had the evening meal, saying; This cup means the New Covenant by virtue of my blood. Keep doing this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. (**1 Corinthians 11:25**)**
- **But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for special possession, that you should declare abroad the excellencies, of the one that called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (**1 Peter 2:9**)**
- **For you were once not a people, but are now God's people; You were those who had not been shown mercy, but are now those who have been shown mercy. (**1 Peter 2:10**)**
- **In the case of such ones who strayed, **repentance** led to the restoration of their right relationship with God and the consequent benefits and blessings of that relationship.**
- **Therefore this is what Yehowah has said; If you will come back, then I shall bring you back. Before me you will stand. And if you will bring forth what is precious from valueless things, you will become like my own mouth. They themselves will come back to you, but you yourself will not come back to them. (**Jeremiah 15:19**)**
- **And I have made you to this people a fortified copper wall, and they will certainly fight against you, but they will not prevail over you. For I am with you, to save you and to deliver you, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 15:20**)**
- **And I will deliver you out of the hand of the bad ones, and I will redeem you out of the palm of the tyrannical ones. (**Jeremiah 15:21**)**
- **Draw close to God, and he will draw close to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you indecisive ones. (**James 4:8**)**
- **Give way to misery and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be**

- turned into mourning, and your joy into dejection. (**James 4:9**)
- **Humble yourselves in the eyes of Yehowah, and he will exalt you. (James 4:10)**
 - **For those who have not previously enjoyed such a relationship with God, such as the pagan peoples of the non-Israelite nations during the time God's covenant was in force with Israel.**
 - **Therefore keep bearing in mind that formerly you were people of the nations as to flesh, uncircumcision you were called by that which is called circumcision made in the flesh with hands. (Ephesians 2:11)**
 - **That you were at that particular time without Christ, alienated from the state of Israel and strangers to the covenants of the promise, and you had no hope and were without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)**
 - **And also those persons of whatever race or nationality who are outside the Christian congregation, **repentance** is a primary and essential step toward being brought into a right standing before God, with life everlasting in view.**
 - **Now when they heard these things, they acquiesced, and they glorified God, saying; Well, then, God has granted **repentance** for the purpose of life to people of the nations also. (Acts of Apostles 11:18)**
 - **True, God has overlooked the times of such ignorance, yet now he is telling mankind that they should all everywhere repent. (Acts of Apostles 17:30)**
 - **But I thoroughly bore witness both to Jews and to Greeks about **repentance** toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus. (Acts of Apostles 20:21)**
 - ****Repentance** may be on a collective basis as well as an individual basis. Thus, Jonah's preaching caused the entire city of Nineveh, from the king down to the least one of them, to **repent**, for in God's eyes they were all sharers in the wrong.**
 - **And the men of Nineveh began to put faith in God, and they proceeded to proclaim a fast and to put on sackcloth, from the**

- greatest one of them even to the least one of them. (**Jonah 3:5**)
- When the word reached the king of Nineveh, then he rose up from his throne and put off his official garment from himself and covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the ashes. (**Jonah 3:6**)
 - Furthermore, he had the cry made, and he had it said in Nineveh, by the decree of the king and his great ones, saying; No man and no domestic animal, no herd and no flock, should taste anything at all. None should take food. Even water they should not drink. (**Jonah 3:7**)
 - And let them cover themselves with sackcloth, man and domestic animal, and let them call out to God with strength and come back, each one from his bad way and from the violence that was in their hands. (**Jonah 3:8**)
 - Who is there knowing whether the true God may turn back and actually feel regret and turn back from his burning anger, so that we may not perish? (**Jonah 3:9**)
 - At any moment that I may speak against a nation and against a kingdom to uproot it and to pull it down and to destroy it. (**Jeremiah 18:7**)
 - And that nation actually turns back from its badness against which I spoke, I will also feel regret over the calamity that I had thought to execute upon it. (**Jeremiah 18:8**)
 - The entire congregation of returned Israelites, under Ezra's prompting, acknowledged community guilt before God, expressing **repentance** through their princely representatives.
 - Then they caused a call to pass throughout Judah and Jerusalem for all the former exiles to collect themselves together at Jerusalem. (**Ezra 10:7**)
 - And anyone that did not come in three days time according to the counsel of the princes and the older men, all his goods would be put under a ban and he himself be separated from the congregation of the exiled people. (**Ezra 10:8**)
 - So all the men of Judah and Benjamin collected themselves

together at Jerusalem within three days, that is, in the ninth month on the twentieth day of the month, and all the people kept sitting in the open place of the house of the true God, shivering because of the matter and on account of the showers of rain. (**Ezra 10:9**)

- At length Ezra the priest rose and said to them; You yourselves have acted unfaithfully in that you gave a dwelling to foreign wives so as to add to the guiltiness of Israel. (**Ezra 10:10**)
- And now make confession to Yehowah the God of your forefathers and do his pleasure and separate yourselves from the peoples of the land and from the foreign wives. (**Ezra 10:11**)
- To this all the congregation answered and said with a loud voice; Exactly according to your word it devolves upon us to do. (**Ezra 10:12**)
- However, the people are many, and it is the season of showers of rain, and it is not possible to stand outside, and the business will not take one day or two, for we have rebelled to a great extent in this matter. (**Ezra 10:13**)
- So, please, let our princes act representatively for all the congregation, and, as for all in our cities who have given a dwelling to foreign wives, let them come at the times appointed and along with them the older men of each individual city and its judges, until we have turned back the burning anger of our God from us, on account of this matter. (**Ezra 10:14**)
- Hezekiah himself became king at the age of twenty-five years, and for twenty-nine years he reigned in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Abijah the daughter of Zechariah. (**2 Chronicles 29:1**)
- Now it is close to my heart to conclude a covenant with Yehowah the God of Israel, that his burning anger may turn back from us. (**2 Chronicles 29:10**)
- And Hezekiah proceeded to send to all Israel and Judah, and even letters he wrote to Ephraim and Manasseh, to come to the house of Yehowah in Jerusalem to hold the Passover to Yehowah the God of Israel. (**2 Chronicles 30:1**)

- **However, the king and his princes and all the congregation in Jerusalem resolved to hold the Passover in the second month. (2 Chronicles 30:2)**
- **For they had not been able to hold it at that time, because not enough priests, on the one hand, had sanctified themselves and the people, on the other hand, had not gathered themselves to Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 30:3)**
- **And the thing was right in the eyes of the king and in the eyes of all the congregation. (2 Chronicles 30:4)**
- **So they decided to have the call pass through all Israel, from Beer-sheba to Dan, to come and hold the Passover to Yehowah the God of Israel at Jerusalem, for it was not as a multitude that they had done so according to what is written. (2 Chronicles 30:5)**
- **Accordingly the runners with the letters from the hand of the king and of his princes went throughout all Israel and Judah, even according to the commandment of the king, saying; You sons of Israel, return to Yehowah the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, that he may return to the escaped ones that are left of you out of the palm of the kings of Assyria. (2 Chronicles 30:6)**
- **And do not become like your forefathers and like your brothers that acted unfaithfully toward Yehowah the God of their forefathers, so that he constituted them an object of astonishment, just as you are seeing. (2 Chronicles 30:7)**
- **Now do not stiffen your neck as your forefathers did. Give place to Yehowah and come to his sanctuary that he has sanctified to time indefinite and serve Yehowah your God, that his burning anger may turn back from you. (2 Chronicles 30:8)**
- **For when you return to Yehowah, your brothers and your sons will be objects of mercy before those holding them captive, and be allowed to return to this land, for Yehowah your God is gracious and merciful, and he will not turn away the face from you if you return to him. (2 Chronicles 30:9)**
- **So the runners continued on, passing along from city to city throughout the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, even to Zebulun, but they were continually speaking in mockery of them and**

deriding them. (2 Chronicles 30:10)

- Only individuals from Asher and Manasseh and from Zebulun humbled themselves so that they came to Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 30:11)
- The hand of the true God proved to be also in Judah to give them one heart to perform the commandment of the king and the princes in the matter of Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 30:12)
- And they proceeded to gather themselves together at Jerusalem, a numerous people, to hold the festival of the unfermented cakes in the second month, a congregation very multitudinous. (2 Chronicles 30:13)
- Then they rose up and removed the altars that were in Jerusalem, and all the incense altars they removed and then threw them into the torrent valley of Kidron. (2 Chronicles 30:14)
- After that they slaughtered the Passover victim on the fourteenth day of the second month, and the priests and the Levites themselves had been humiliated, so that they sanctified themselves and brought burnt offerings to the house of Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 30:15)
- And as soon as they finished all this, all the Israelites that were found there went out to the cities of Judah, and they proceeded to break up the sacred pillars and cut down the sacred poles and pull down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin and in Ephraim and Manasseh until they had finished, after which all the sons of Israel returned to their cities, each one to his own possession. (2 Chronicles 31:1)
- Then Hezekiah set the divisions of the priests and of the Levites in their divisions, each one in accordance with its service for the priests and for the Levites as regards the burnt offering and the communion sacrifices to minister and to give thanks and praise in the gates of the camps of Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 31:2)
- The congregation at Corinth expressed **repentance** over having tolerated in their midst a practitioner of gross wrongdoing.
- Hence even if I saddened you by my letter, I do not regret it. Even if I did at first regret it, I see that that letter saddened you,

- though but for a little while. (2 Corinthians 7:8)
- Now I rejoice, not because you were just saddened, but because you were saddened into **repenting**, for you were saddened in a godly way, that you might suffer no damage in anything due to us. (2 Corinthians 7:9)
 - For sadness in a godly way makes for **repentance** to salvation that is not to be regretted, but the sadness of the world produces death. (2 Corinthians 7:10)
 - For, look! this very thing, your being saddened in a godly way, what a great earnestness it produced in you, yes, clearing of yourselves, yes, indignation, yes, fear, yes, longing, yes, zeal, yes, righting of the wrong! In every respect you demonstrated yourselves to be chaste in this matter. (2 Corinthians 7:11)
 - Actually fornication is reported among you, and such fornication as is not even among the nations, that a wife a certain man has of his father. (1 Corinthians 5:1)
 - And are you puffed up, and did you not rather mourn, in order, that the man that committed this deed should be taken away from your midst? (1 Corinthians 5:2)
 - I for one, although absent in body but present in spirit, have certainly judged already, as if I were present, the man who has worked in such a way as this. (1 Corinthians 5:3)
 - That in the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are gathered together, also my spirit with the power of our Lord Jesus. (1 Corinthians 5:4)
 - You hand such a man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, in order, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord. (1 Corinthians 5:5)
 - Even the prophets Jeremiah and Daniel did not completely exempt themselves of guilt when confessing the wrongdoing of Judah that led to her overthrow.
 - Do let us search out our ways and explore them, and do let us return clear to Yehowah. (Lamentations 3:40)

- Let us raise our heart along with our palms to God in the heavens. (**Lamentations 3:41**)
- We ourselves have transgressed, and we have behaved rebelliously. You yourself have not forgiven. (**Lamentations 3:42**)
- And I began to pray to Yehowah my God and to make confession and to say; Ah Yehowah the true God, the great One and the fear-inspiring One, keeping the covenant and the loving-kindness to those loving him and to those keeping his commandments. (**Daniel 9:4**)
- We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, and there has been a turning aside from your commandments and from your judicial decisions. (**Daniel 9:5**)

·· **What True Repentance Requires**

- **Repentance** involves both mind and heart. The wrongness of the course or act must be recognized, and this requires an acknowledgment that God's standards and will are righteous. Ignorance or forgetfulness of his will and standards is a barrier to **repentance**.
- And Shaphan the secretary went on to tell the king, saying; There is a book that Hilkiyah the priest has given me. And Shaphan began to read it before the king. (**2 Kings 22:10**)
- And it came about that as soon as the king heard the words of the book of the Law, he immediately ripped his garments apart. (**2 Kings 22:11**)
- And as to the king of Judah who is sending you to inquire of Yehowah, this is what you should say to him; This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; As regards the words that you have heard. (**2 Kings 22:18**)
- For the reason that your heart was soft so that you humbled yourself because of Yehowah at your hearing what I have spoken against this place and its inhabitants for it to become an object of astonishment and a malediction, and then you ripped your garments apart and began weeping before me, I, even I, have heard, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 22:19**)

- **And the word of Yehowah began to occur to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying; (Jonah 1:1)**
- **Get up, go to Nineveh the great city, and proclaim against her that their badness has come up before me. (Jonah 1:2)**
- **And, for my part, ought I not to feel sorry for Nineveh the great city, in which there exist more than one hundred and twenty thousand men who do not at all know the difference between their right hand and their left, besides many domestic animals? (Jonah 4:11)**
- **For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to accurate knowledge. (Romans 10:2)**
- **For, because of not knowing the righteousness of God but seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. (Romans 10:3)**
- **For this reason Yehowah mercifully has sent prophets and preachers to call persons to **repentance**.**
- **And now for the reason that you kept doing all these works, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I kept speaking to you, getting up early and speaking, but you did not listen, and I kept calling you, but you did not answer. (Jeremiah 7:13)**
- **And Yehowah sent to you all his servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them, but you did not listen, neither did you incline your ear to listen. (Jeremiah 25:4)**
- **They saying; Turn back, please, every one from his bad way and from the badness of your dealings, and continue dwelling upon the ground that Yehowah gave to you and to your forefathers from long ago and to a long time to come. (Jeremiah 25:5)**
- **And do not walk after other gods in order to serve them and to bow down to them, that you may not offend me with the work of your hands, and that I may not cause calamity to you. (Jeremiah 25:6)**
- **Now after John was put under arrest Jesus went into Galilee, preaching the Good News of God (Mark 1:14)**

- **And saying; The appointed time has been fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has drawn near. Be repentant, you people, and have faith in the Good News. (Mark 1:15)**
- **So they set out and preached in order, that people might repent. (Mark 6:12)**
- **And commencing at Moses and all the Prophets he interpreted to them things pertaining to himself in all the Scriptures. (Luke 24:27)**
- **By means of the publishing of the Good News through the Christian congregation, and particularly from the time of the conversion of Cornelius forward, God has been telling mankind that they should all everywhere **repent**.**
- **Paul now stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said; Men of Athens, I behold that in all things you seem to be more given to the fear of the deities than others are. (Acts of Apostles 17:22)**
- **For instance, while passing along and carefully observing your objects of veneration I also found an altar on which had been inscribed, **To An Unknown God**. Therefore what you are unknowingly giving godly devotion to, this I am publishing to you. (Acts of Apostles 17:23)**
- **Seeing, therefore, that we are the progeny of God, we ought not to imagine that the Divine Being is like gold or silver or stone, like something sculptured by the art and contrivance of man. (Acts of Apostles 17:29)**
- **True, God has overlooked the times of such ignorance, yet now he is telling mankind that they should all everywhere repent. (Acts of Apostles 17:30)**
- **Because he has set a day in which he purposes to judge the inhabited earth in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and he has furnished a guarantee to all men in that he has resurrected him from the dead. (Acts of Apostles 17:31)**
- **Let it therefore be known to you, brothers, that through this One a forgiveness of sins is being published to you. (Acts of Apostles 13:38)**

- **And that from all the things from which you could not be declared guiltless by means of the Law of Moses, everyone who believes is declared guiltless by means of this One. (Acts of Apostles 13:39)**
- **God's Word whether written or spoken is the means for persuading them, convincing them of the rightness of God's way and the wrongness of their own ways.**
- **Then he said; No, indeed, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them they will repent. (Luke 16:30)**
- **But he said to him; If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone rises from the dead. (Luke 16:31)**
- **But if you are all prophesying and any unbeliever or ordinary person comes in, he is reprov'd by them all, he is closely examined by all. (1 Corinthians 14:24)**
- **The secrets of his heart become manifest, so that he will fall upon his face and worship God, declaring; God is really among you. (1 Corinthians 14:25)**
- **For the word of God is alive and exerts power and is sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and of joints and their marrow, and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)**
- **And there is not a creation that is not manifest to his sight, but all things are naked and openly exposed to the eyes of him with whom we have an accounting. (Hebrews 4:13)**
- **God's Law is perfect, bringing back the soul.**
- **The Law of Yehowah is perfect, bringing back the soul. The reminder of Yehowah is trustworthy, making the inexperienced one wise. (Psalms 19:7)**
- **King David speaks of teaching transgressors God's ways so that they may turn back to him.**
- **I will teach transgressors your ways, that sinners themselves**

may turn right back to you. (**Psalms 51:13**)

- **These sinners doubtless being fellow Israelites. Timothy was instructed not to fight when dealing with Christians in the congregations he served, but to instruct with mildness those not favorably disposed as God might give them **repentance** leading to an accurate knowledge of truth, and they may come back to their proper senses out from the snare of the Devil.**
- **Further, turn down foolish and ignorant questionings, knowing they produce fights. (**2 Timothy 2:23**)**
- **But a slave of the Lord does not need to fight, but needs to be gentle toward all, qualified to teach, keeping himself restrained under evil. (**2 Timothy 2:24**)**
- **Instructing with mildness those not favorably disposed, as perhaps God may give them **repentance** leading to an accurate knowledge of truth. (**2 Timothy 2:25**)**
- **And they may come back to their proper senses out from the snare of the Devil, seeing that they have been caught alive by him for the will of that one. (**2 Timothy 2:26**)**
- **Hence, the call to **repentance** may be given inside the congregation of God's people, as well as outside of it.**
- **The person must see that he has sinned **against God**.**
- **For my transgressions I myself know, and my sin is in front of me constantly. (**Psalms 51:3**)**
- **Against you, you alone, I have sinned, and what is bad in your eyes I have done, in order, that you may prove to be righteous when you speak, that you may be in the clear when you judge. (**Psalms 51:4**)**
- **We lie down in our shame, and our humiliation keeps covering us, for it is toward Yehowah our God that we have sinned, we and our fathers from our youth on and down to this day, and we have not obeyed the voice of Yehowah our God. (**Jeremiah 3:25**)**

- **This may be quite evident where open or direct blasphemy, vocal misuse of God's name, or worship of other gods, as by use of idol images, is involved.**
- **I am Yehowah your God, who have brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slaves. (Exodus 20:2)**
- **You must not have any other gods against my face. (Exodus 20:3)**
- **You must not make for yourself a carved image or a form like anything that is in the heavens above or that is on the earth underneath or that is in the waters under the earth. (Exodus 20:4)**
- **You must not bow down to them nor be induced to serve them, because I Yehowah your God am a God exacting exclusive devotion, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation, in the case of those who hate me. (Exodus 20:5)**
- **But exercising loving-kindness toward the thousandth generation in the case of those who love me and keep my commandments. (Exodus 20:6)**
- **You must not take up the name of Yehowah your God in a worthless way, for Yehowah will not leave the one unpunished who takes up his name in a worthless way. (Exodus 20:7)**
- **But even in what one might consider a private matter or something between himself and another human, wrongs committed must be recognized as sins against God, a treating of Yehowah with disrespect.**
- **Then Nathan said to David; You yourself are the man! This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; I myself anointed you as king over Israel, and I myself delivered you out of the hand of Saul. (2 Samuel 12:7)**
- **And I was willing to give you the house of your lord and the wives of your lord into your bosom, and to give you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if it were not enough, I was willing to add to you things like these as well as other things. (2 Samuel 12:8)**

- **Why did you despise the word of Yehowah by doing what is bad in his eyes? Uriah the Hittite you struck down with the sword, and his wife you took as your wife, and him you killed by the sword of the sons of Ammon. (2 Samuel 12:9)**
- **And now a sword will not depart from your own house to time indefinite, as a consequence of the fact that you despised me so that you took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to become your wife. (2 Samuel 12:10)**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am raising up against you calamity out of your own house, and I will take your wives under your own eyes and give them to your fellowman, and he will certainly lie down with your wives under the eyes of this sun. (2 Samuel 12:11)**
- **Whereas you yourself acted in secret, I, for my part, shall do this thing in front of all Israel and in front of the sun. (2 Samuel 12:12)**
- **David now said to Nathan; I have sinned against Yehowah. At this Nathan said to David; Yehowah, in turn, does let your sin pass by. You will not die. (2 Samuel 12:13)**
- **Notwithstanding this, because you have unquestionably treated Yehowah with disrespect by this thing, also the son himself, just born to you, will positively die. (2 Samuel 12:14)**
- **Against you, you alone, I have sinned, and what is bad in your eyes I have done, in order, that you may prove to be righteous when you speak, that you may be in the clear when you judge. (Psalms 51:4)**
- **Then the son said to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Make me as one of your hired men. (Luke 15:21)**
- **Even wrongs committed in ignorance or by mistake are to be recognized as making one guilty before the Sovereign Ruler, Yehowah God.**
- **And if a soul sins in that he does do one of all the things that Yehowah commands should not be done, although he did not**

know it, yet he has become guilty and must answer for his error. **(Leviticus 5:17)**

- **And he must bring a sound ram from the flock according to the estimated value, for a guilt offering, to the priest, and the priest must make an atonement for him for his mistake that he committed unintentionally, although he himself did not know it, and so it must be forgiven him. (Leviticus 5:18)**
- **It is a guilt offering. He has positively become guilty against Yehowah. (Leviticus 5:19)**
- **Look! With error I was brought forth with birth pains, and in sin my mother conceived me. (Psalms 51:5)**
- **Look! You have taken delight in truthfulness itself in the inward parts, and in the secret self may you cause me to know sheer wisdom. (Psalms 51:6)**
- **Before I was under affliction I was sinning by mistake, but now I have kept your very saying; (Psalms 119:67)**
- **Although formerly I was a blasphemer and a persecutor and an insolent man. Nevertheless, I was shown mercy, because I was ignorant and acted with a lack of faith. (1 Timothy 1:13)**
- **But the undeserved kindness of our Lord abounded exceedingly along with faith and love that is in connection with Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 1:14)**
- **Faithful and deserving of full acceptance is the saying that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these I am foremost. (1 Timothy 1:15)**
- **Nevertheless, the reason why I was shown mercy was that by means of me as the foremost case Christ Jesus might demonstrate all his long-suffering for a sample of those who are going to rest their faith on him for everlasting life. (1 Timothy 1:16)**
- **The work of the prophets was largely one of convincing Israel of its sin.**
- **Call out full-throated, do not hold back. Raise your voice just like**

- a horn, and tell my people their revolt, and the house of Jacob their sins. (**Isaiah 58:1**)
- Yet day after day it was I whom they kept seeking, and it was in the knowledge of my ways that they would express delight, like a nation that carried on righteousness itself and that had not left the very justice of their God, in that they kept asking me for righteous judgments, drawing near to God in whom they had delight. (**Isaiah 58:2**)
 - And, on the other hand, I myself have become full of power, with the spirit of Yehowah, and of justice and mightiness, in order to tell to Jacob his revolt and to Israel his sin. (**Micah 3:8**)
 - Hear, please, this, you head ones of the house of Jacob and you commanders of the house of Israel, the ones detesting justice and the ones who make even everything that is straight crooked. (**Micah 3:9**)
 - Building Zion with acts of bloodshed and Jerusalem with unrighteousness. (**Micah 3:10**)
 - Her own head ones judge merely for a bribe, and her own priests instruct just for a price, and her own prophets practice divination simply for money, yet upon Yehowah they keep supporting themselves, saying; Is not Yehowah in the midst of us? There will come upon us no calamity. (**Micah 3:11**)
 - **Whether this was idolatry,**
 - Therefore say to the house of Israel; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Come back and turn yourselves back from your dungy idols and turn your faces back even from all your detestable things. (**Ezekiel 14:6**)
 - **Injustice, oppression of ones fellowman,**
 - At the end of seven years you men should let go each one his brother, a Hebrew man, who came to be sold to you and who has served you six years, and you must let him go free from being with you. But your forefathers did not listen to me, neither did they incline their ear. (**Jeremiah 34:14**)
 - And you yourselves turn around today and do what is upright in

- my eyes in proclaiming liberty each one to his companion, and you conclude a covenant before me in the house upon which my name has been called. (**Jeremiah 34:15**)
- Then you turn back and profane my name and bring back each one his manservant and each one his maidservant, whom you let go free agreeably to their soul, and you subject them to become your menservants and maidservants. (**Jeremiah 34:16**)
 - Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean, remove the badness of your dealings from in front of my eyes, cease to do bad. (**Isaiah 1:16**)
 - Learn to do good. Search for justice. Set right the oppressor. Render judgment for the fatherless boy. Plead the cause of the widow. (**Isaiah 1:17**)
 - **Immorality**
 - How can I forgive you for this very thing? Your own sons have left me, and they keep swearing by what is no God. And I kept satisfying them, but they continued committing adultery, and to the house of a prostitute woman they go in troops. (**Jeremiah 5:7**)
 - Horses seized with sexual heat, having strong testicles, they have become. They neigh each one to the wife of his companion. (**Jeremiah 5:8**)
 - Should I not take an accounting because of these very things? is the utterance of Yehowah. Or upon a nation that is like this should not my soul avenge itself? (**Jeremiah 5:9**)
 - **Or failing to trust in Yehowah God, and, instead, trusting in men and the military might of nations.**
 - And all the people began to say to Samuel; Pray in behalf of your servants to Yehowah your God, as we do not want to die, because we have added to all our sins an evil in asking for ourselves a king. (**1 Samuel 12:19**)
 - So Samuel said to the people; Do not be afraid. You, you have done all this evil. Only do not turn aside from following Yehowah, and you must serve Yehowah with all your heart. (**1**

Samuel 12:20)

- **And you must not turn aside to follow the unrealities that are of no benefit and that do not deliver, because they are unrealities. (1 Samuel 12:21)**
- **But you say; I have remained innocent. Surely his anger has turned back from me. Here I am entering into controversy with you on account of your saying; I have not sinned. (Jeremiah 2:35)**
- **Why do you treat as very insignificant the changing of your way? Of Egypt, too, you will become ashamed, just as you became ashamed of Assyria. (Jeremiah 2:36)**
- **For this cause also you will go forth with your hands upon your head, because Yehowah has rejected the objects of your confidence, and you will have no success with them. (Jeremiah 2:37)**
- **And as respects you, to your God you should return, keeping loving-kindness and justice, and let there be a hoping in your God constantly. (Hosea 12:6)**
- **Do come back, O Israel, to Yehowah your God, for you have stumbled in your error. (Hosea 14:1)**
- **Take with yourselves words and come back to Yehowah. Say to him, all you people, May you pardon error, and accept what is good, and we will offer in return the young bulls of our lips. (Hosea 14:2)**
- **Assyria itself will not save us. Upon horses we shall not ride. And no more shall we say; O our God! To the work of our hands, because it is by you that a fatherless boy is shown mercy. (Hosea 14:3)**
- **The message of John the Baptizer and that of Jesus Christ were calls to **repentance** on the part of the Jews.**
- **In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea. (Matthew 3:1)**
- **Saying; **Repent**, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near.**

(Matthew 3:2)

- **When he caught sight of many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to the baptism, he said to them; You offspring of vipers, who has intimated to you to flee from the coming wrath? (Matthew 3:7)**
- **So then produce fruit that befits repentance. (Matthew 3:8)**
- **From that time on Jesus commenced preaching and saying; Repent, you people, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near. (Matthew 4:17)**
- **John and Jesus stripped away from the people and their religious leaders the cloak of self-righteousness and of observance of man-made traditions and hypocrisy, exposing the sinful state of the nation.**
- **Therefore he began to say to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him; You offspring of vipers, who has intimated to you to flee from the coming wrath? (Luke 3:7)**
- **Therefore produce fruits that befit repentance. And do not start saying within yourselves, As a father we have Abraham. For I say to you that God has power to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. (Luke 3:8)**
- **Then there came to Jesus from Jerusalem Pharisees and scribes, saying; (Matthew 15:1)**
- **Why is it your disciples overstep the tradition of the men of former times? For example, they do not wash their hands when about to eat a meal. (Matthew 15:2)**
- **In reply he said to them; Why is it you also overstep the commandment of God because of your tradition? (Matthew 15:3)**
- **For example, God said; Honor your father and your mother, and; Let him that reviles father or mother end up in death. (Matthew 15:4)**
- **But you say; Whoever says to his father or mother; Whatever I have by which you might get benefit from me is a gift dedicated to God. (Matthew 15:5)**

- He must not honor his father at all. And so you have made the word of God invalid because of your tradition. (**Matthew 15:6**)
- You hypocrites, Isaiah aptly prophesied about you, when he said; (**Matthew 15:7**)
- This people honors me with their lips, yet their heart is far removed from me. (**Matthew 15:8**)
- It is in vain that they keep worshiping me, because they teach commands of men as doctrines. (**Matthew 15:9**)
- Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples, saying; (**Matthew 23:1**)
- The scribes and the Pharisees have seated themselves in the seat of Moses. (**Matthew 23:2**)
- Therefore all the things they tell you, do and observe, but do not do according to their deeds, for they say but do not perform. (**Matthew 23:3**)
- They bind up heavy loads and put them upon the shoulders of men, but they themselves are not willing to budge them with their finger. (**Matthew 23:4**)
- All the works they do they do to be viewed by men, for they broaden the scripture-containing cases that they wear as safeguards, and enlarge the fringes of their garments. (**Matthew 23:5**)
- They like the most prominent place at evening meals and the front seats in the synagogues. (**Matthew 23:6**)
- And the greetings in the marketplaces and to be called Rabbi by men. (**Matthew 23:7**)
- But you, do not you be called Rabbi, for one is your teacher, whereas all you are brothers. (**Matthew 23:8**)
- Moreover, do not call anyone your father on earth, for one is your Father, the heavenly One. (**Matthew 23:9**)
- Neither be called leaders, for your Leader is one, the Christ.

(Matthew 23:10)

- **But the greatest one among you must be your minister. (Matthew 23:11)**
- **Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. (Matthew 23:12)**
- **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you shut up the kingdom of the heavens before men, for you yourselves do not go in, neither do you permit those on their way in to go in. (Matthew 23:13)**
- **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you traverse sea and dry land to make one proselyte, and when he becomes one you make him a subject for Gehenna twice as much so as yourselves. (Matthew 23:15)**
- **Woe to you, blind guides, who say; If anyone swears by the temple, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is under obligation. (Matthew 23:16)**
- **Fools and blind ones! Which, in fact, is greater, the gold or the temple that has sanctified the gold? (Matthew 23:17)**
- **Also, If anyone swears by the altar, it is nothing. But if anyone swears by the gift on it, he is under obligation. (Matthew 23:18)**
- **Blind ones! Which, in fact, is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift? (Matthew 23:19)**
- **Therefore he that swears by the altar is swearing by it and by all the things on it. (Matthew 23:20)**
- **And he that swears by the temple is swearing by it and by him that is inhabiting it. (Matthew 23:21)**
- **And he that swears by heaven is swearing by the throne of God and by him that is sitting on it. (Matthew 23:22)**
- **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you give the tenth of the mint and the dill and the cummin, but you have disregarded the weightier matters of the Law, namely, justice and mercy and faithfulness. These things it was binding to do,**

- yet not to disregard the other things. ([Matthew 23:23](#))
- **Blind guides, who strain out the gnat but gulp down the camel! ([Matthew 23:24](#))**
 - **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you cleanse the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside they are full of plunder and immoderateness. ([Matthew 23:25](#))**
 - **Blind Pharisee, cleanse first the inside of the cup and of the dish, that the outside of it also may become clean. ([Matthew 23:26](#))**
 - **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you resemble whitewashed graves, which outwardly indeed appear beautiful but inside are full of dead mens bones and of every sort of uncleanness. ([Matthew 23:27](#))**
 - **In that way you also, outwardly indeed, appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. ([Matthew 23:28](#))**
 - **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the graves of the prophets and decorate the memorial tombs of the righteous ones. ([Matthew 23:29](#))**
 - **And you say; If we were in the days of our forefathers, we would not be sharers with them in the blood of the prophets. ([Matthew 23:30](#))**
 - **Therefore you are bearing witness against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. ([Matthew 23:31](#))**
 - **Well, then, fill up the measure of your forefathers. ([Matthew 23:32](#))**
 - **Serpents, offspring of vipers, how are you to flee from the judgment of Gehenna? ([Matthew 23:33](#))**
 - **For this reason, here I am sending forth to you prophets and wise men and public instructors. Some of them you will kill and impale, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues and persecute from city to city. ([Matthew 23:34](#))**
 - **That there may come upon you all the righteous blood spilled on**

- earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. (**Matthew 23:35**)
- Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation. (**Matthew 23:36**)
 - Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the killer of the prophets and stoner of those sent forth to her, how often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks together under her wings! But you people did not want it. (**Matthew 23:37**)
 - Look! Your house is abandoned to you. (**Matthew 23:38**)
 - For I say to you, you will by no means see me from henceforth until you say; Blessed is he that comes in Yehowah's name! (**Matthew 23:39**)
 - And so Jesus went on to say to the Jews that had believed him; If you remain in my word, you are really my disciples. (**John 8:31**)
 - And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. (**John 8:32**)
 - They replied to him; We are Abraham's offspring and never have we been slaves to anybody. How is it you say; You will become free? (**John 8:33**)
 - Jesus answered them; Most truly I say to you, every doer of sin is a slave of sin. (**John 8:34**)
 - Moreover, the slave does not remain in the household forever, the son remains forever. (**John 8:35**)
 - Therefore if the Son sets you free, you will be actually free. (**John 8:36**)
 - I know that you are Abraham's offspring. But you are seeking to kill me, because my word makes no progress among you. (**John 8:37**)
 - What things I have seen with my Father I speak, and you,

therefore, do the things you have heard from your father. (**John 8:38**)

- In answer they said to him; Our father is Abraham. Jesus said to them; If you are Abraham's children, do the works of Abraham. (**John 8:39**)
- But now you are seeking to kill me, a man that has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. (**John 8:40**)
- You do the works of your father. They said to him; We were not born from fornication. We have one Father, God. (**John 8:41**)
- Jesus said to them; If God were your Father, you would love me, for from God I came forth and am here. Neither have I come of my own initiative at all, but that One sent me forth. (**John 8:42**)
- Why is it you do not know what I am speaking? Because you cannot listen to my word. (**John 8:43**)
- You are from your father the Devil, and you wish to do the desires of your father. That one was a manslayer when he began, and he did not stand fast in the truth, because truth is not in him. When he speaks the lie, he speaks according to his own disposition, because he is a liar and the father of the lie. (**John 8:44**)
- Because I, on the other hand, tell the truth, you do not believe me. (**John 8:45**)
- Who of you convicts me of sin? If I speak truth, why is it you do not believe me? (**John 8:46**)
- He that is from God listens to the sayings of God. This is why you do not listen, because you are not from God. (**John 8:47**)
- Those of the Pharisees who were with him heard these things, and they said to him; We are not blind also, are we? (**John 9:40**)
- Jesus said to them; If you were blind, you would have no sin. But now you say; We see. Your sin remains. (**John 9:41**)

·· **Getting The Sense With The Heart**

- For **repentance**, then, there must initially be a hearing and seeing with understanding, due to a receptive heart.
- And he went on to say; Go, and you must say to this people, Hear again and again, O men, but do not understand, and see again and again, but do not get any knowledge. (**Isaiah 6:9**)
- Make the heart of this people unreceptive, and make their very ears unresponsive, and paste their very eyes together, that they may not see with their eyes and with their ears they may not hear, and that their own heart may not understand and that they may not actually turn back and get healing for themselves. (**Isaiah 6:10**)
- This is why I speak to them by the use of illustrations, because, looking, they look in vain, and hearing, they hear in vain, neither do they get the sense of it. (**Matthew 13:13**)
- And toward them the prophecy of Isaiah is having fulfillment, which says; By hearing, you will hear, but by no means get the sense of it. And, looking, you will look, but by no means see. (**Matthew 13:14**)
- For the heart of this people has grown unreceptive, and with their ears they have heard without response, and they have shut their eyes, that they might never see with their eyes and hear with their ears and get the sense of it with their hearts and turn back, and I heal them. (**Matthew 13:15**)
- Saying; Go to this people and say; By hearing, you will hear but by no means understand, and, looking, you will look but by no means see. (**Acts of Apostles 28:26**)
- For the heart of this people has grown unreceptive, and with their ears they have heard without response, and they have shut their eyes, that they should never see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn back, and I should heal them. (**Acts of Apostles 28:27**)
- Not only does the mind perceive and grasp what the ear hears and the eye sees, but more important, those **repenting** get the sense of it, the thought.

- He has blinded their eyes and he has made their hearts hard, that they should not see with their eyes **and get the thought with their hearts** and turn around and I should heal them. (**John 12:40**)
- **With their hearts.**
- For the heart of this people has grown unreceptive, and with their ears they have heard without response, and they have shut their eyes, that they might never see with their eyes and hear with their ears and get the sense of it with their hearts and turn back, and I heal them. (**Matthew 13:15**)
- For the heart of this people has grown unreceptive, and with their ears they have heard without response, and they have shut their eyes, that they should never see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn back, and I should heal them. (**Acts of Apostles 28:27**)
- **There is, therefore, not merely an intellectual recognition of the wrongness of their ways but a heart appreciation of this fact. With those already having knowledge of God, it may be a case of their calling back to their heart such knowledge of him and his commandments.**
- **And you well know today, and you must call back to your heart that Yehowah is the true God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. There is no other. (**Deuteronomy 4:39**)**
- **So I proceeded to behold, I myself. I began taking it to heart. I saw. I took the discipline. (**Proverbs 24:32**)**
- **They have not come to know, nor do they understand, because their eyes have been besmeared so as not to see, their heart so as to have no insight. (**Isaiah 44:18**)**
- **And no one recalls to his heart or has knowledge or understanding, saying; The half of it I have burned up in a fire, and upon its coals I have also baked bread. I roast flesh and eat. But the rest of it shall I make into a mere detestable thing? To the dried-out wood of a tree shall I prostrate myself? (**Isaiah 44:19**)**
- **He is feeding on ashes. His own heart that has been trifled with**

- has led him astray. And he does not deliver his soul, nor does he say; Is there not a falsehood in my right hand? ([Isaiah 44:20](#))
- **So that they can come to their senses.**
 - **And they indeed come to their senses in the land where they have been carried off captive, and they actually return and make request to you for favor in the land of their captors, saying; We have sinned and erred, we have acted wickedly. ([1 Kings 8:47](#))**
 - **With the right heart motivation they can make their mind over, proving to themselves the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God.**
 - **And quit being fashioned after this system of things, but be transformed by making your mind over, that you may prove to yourselves the good and acceptable and perfect will of God. ([Romans 12:2](#))**
 - **If there is faith and love for God in the persons heart, there will be sincere regret, sadness over the wrong course. Appreciation for God's goodness and greatness will make transgressors feel keen remorse at having brought reproach on his name.**
 - **And Job proceeded to answer Yehowah and say; ([Job 42:1](#))**
 - **I have come to know that you are able to do all things, and there is no idea that is unattainable for you. ([Job 42:2](#))**
 - **Who is this that is obscuring counsel without knowledge? Therefore I talked, but I was not understanding things too wonderful for me, which I do not know. ([Job 42:3](#))**
 - **Hear, please, and I myself shall speak. I shall question you, and you inform me. ([Job 42:4](#))**
 - **In hearsay I have heard about you, but now my own eye does see you. ([Job 42:5](#))**
 - **That is why I make a retraction, and I do repent in dust and ashes. ([Job 42:6](#))**
 - **Love for neighbor will also make them rue the harm they have done to others, the bad example set, perhaps the way in which they have sullied the reputation of God's people among outsiders.**

- **They seek forgiveness because they desire to honor God's name and to work for the good of their neighbor.**
- **When your people Israel are defeated before the enemy, because they kept sinning against you, and they indeed return to you and laud your name and pray and make request for favor toward you in this house. (1 Kings 8:33)**
- **Then may you yourself hear from heaven, and you must forgive the sin of your people Israel and you must bring them back to the ground that you gave to their forefathers. (1 Kings 8:34)**
- **The sins of my youth and my revolts O do not remember. According to your loving-kindness do you yourself remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Yehowah. (Psalms 25:7)**
- **Good and upright is Yehowah. That is why he instructs sinners in the way. (Psalms 25:8)**
- **He will cause the meek ones to walk in his judicial decision, and he will teach the meek ones his way. (Psalms 25:9)**
- **All the paths of Yehowah are loving-kindness and trueness for those observing his covenant and his reminders. (Psalms 25:10)**
- **For your names sake, O Yehowah, you must even forgive my error, for it is considerable. (Psalms 25:11)**
- **Do not throw me away from before your face, and your Holy Spirit O do not take away from me. (Psalms 51:11)**
- **Do restore to me the exultation of salvation by you, and may you support me even with a willing spirit. (Psalms 51:12)**
- **I will teach transgressors your ways, that sinners themselves may turn right back to you. (Psalms 51:13)**
- **Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God the God of my salvation, that my tongue may joyfully tell about your righteousness. (Psalms 51:14)**
- **O Yehowah, may you open these lips of mine, that my own mouth may tell forth your praise. (Psalms 51:15)**

- **Incline your ear, O my God, and hear. Do open your eyes and see our desolated conditions and the city that has been called by your name, for not according to our righteous acts are we letting our entreaties fall before you, but according to your many mercies. (Daniel 9:18)**
- **O Yehowah, do hear. O Yehowah, do forgive. O Yehowah, do pay attention and act. Do not delay, for your own sake, O my God, for your own name has been called upon your city and upon your people. (Daniel 9:19)**
- **Repentantly they feel broken at heart, crushed and lowly in spirit.**
- **Yehowah is near to those that are broken at heart, and those who are crushed in spirit he saves. (Psalms 34:18)**
- **The sacrifices to God are a broken spirit, a heart broken and crushed, O God, you will not despise. (Psalms 51:17)**
- **For this is what the High and Lofty One, who is residing forever and whose name is holy, has said; In the height and in the holy place is where I reside, also with the one crushed and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly ones and to revive the heart of the ones being crushed. (Isaiah 57:15)**
- **They are contrite in spirit and trembling at God's word, which calls for repentance.**
- **Now all these things my own hand has made, so that all these came to be, is the utterance of Yehowah. To this one, then, I shall look, to the one afflicted and contrite in spirit and trembling at my word. (Isaiah 66:2)**
- **And in effect, they come quivering to Yehowah and to his goodness.**
- **Afterwards the sons of Israel will come back and certainly look for Yehowah their God, and for David their king, and they will certainly come quivering to Yehowah and to his goodness in the final part of the days. (Hosea 3:5)**

- **When David acted foolishly in the matter of a census, his heart began to beat him.**
- **And David's heart began to beat him after he had so numbered the people. Consequently David said to Yehowah; I have sinned very much in what I have done. And now, Yehowah, let your servants error pass by, please, for I have acted very foolishly. (2 Samuel 24:10)**
- **There must therefore be a definite rejection of the bad course, a heartfelt hating of it, repugnance for it**
- **O you lovers of Yehowah, hate what is bad. He is guarding the souls of his loyal ones, out of the hand of the wicked ones he delivers them. (Psalms 97:10)**
- **I shall not set in front of my eyes any good-for-nothing thing. The doing of those who fall away I have hated. It does not cling to me. (Psalms 101:3)**
- **Owing to your orders I behave with understanding. That is why I have hated every false path. (Psalms 119:104)**
- **Let your love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is wicked, cling to what is good. (Romans 12:9)**
- **You loved righteousness, and you hated lawlessness. That is why God, your God, anointed you with the oil of exultation more than your partners. (Hebrews 1:9)**
- **Save them by snatching them out of the fire. But continue showing mercy to others, doing so with fear, while you hate even the inner garment that has been stained by the flesh. (Jude 1:23)**
- **For the fear of Yehowah means the hating of bad, including self-exaltation, pride, the bad way, and the perverse mouth.**
- **The fear of Yehowah means the hating of bad. Self-exaltation and pride and the bad way and the perverse mouth I have hated. (Proverbs 8:13)**
- **Remove from yourself the crookedness of speech, and the deviousness of lips put far away from yourself. (Proverbs 4:24)**

- Along with this, there must be a loving of righteousness and the firm determination to adhere to a righteous course from then on. Without both this hatred of bad and love of righteousness, there will be no genuine force to the **repentance**, no following through with true conversion.

- Thus, King Rehoboam humbled himself under the expression of Yehowah's anger, but afterward Rehoboam did what was bad, for he had not firmly established his heart to search for Yehowah.

- And because he humbled himself, Yehowah's anger turned back from him, and he did not think of bringing them to ruin completely. And, besides, there happened to be good things in Judah. (**2 Chronicles 12:12**)

- And King Rehoboam continued to make his position strong in Jerusalem and kept reigning, for Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he began to reign, and for seventeen years he reigned in Jerusalem, the city that Yehowah had chosen out of all the tribes of Israel to put his name there. And his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess. (**2 Chronicles 12:13**)

- But he did what was bad, for he had not firmly established his heart to search for Yehowah. (**2 Chronicles 12:14**)

- What shall I do to you, O Ephraim? What shall I do to you, O Judah, when the loving-kindness of you people is like the morning clouds and like the dew that early goes away? (**Hosea 6:4**)

- That is why I shall have to hew them by the prophets. I shall have to kill them by the sayings of my mouth. And the judgments upon you will be as the light that goes forth. (**Hosea 6:5**)

- For in loving-kindness I have taken delight, and not in sacrifice, and in the knowledge of God rather than in whole burnt offerings. (**Hosea 6:6**)

· Sadness In A Godly Way, Not That Of The World

- The apostle Paul, in his second letter to the Corinthians, refers to the **sadness in a godly way** that they expressed as a result of the reproof given them in his first letter.

- Hence even if I saddened you by my letter, I do not regret it. Even if I did at first regret it, I see that that letter saddened you, though but for a little while. (2 Corinthians 7:8)
- Now I rejoice, not because you were just saddened, but because you were saddened into repenting, for you were saddened in a godly way, that you might suffer no damage in anything due to us. (2 Corinthians 7:9)
- For sadness in a godly way makes for **repentance** to salvation that is not to be regretted, but the sadness of the world produces death. (2 Corinthians 7:10)
- For, look! This very thing, your being saddened in a godly way, what a great earnestness it produced in you, yes, clearing of yourselves, yes, indignation, yes, fear, yes, longing, yes, zeal, yes, righting of the wrong! In every respect you demonstrated yourselves to be chaste in this matter. (2 Corinthians 7:11)
- Certainly, although I wrote you, I did it, neither for the one who did the wrong, nor for the one who was wronged, but that your earnestness for us might be made manifest among you in the sight of God. (2 Corinthians 7:12)
- That is why we have been comforted. However, in addition to our comfort we rejoiced still more abundantly due to the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by all of you. (2 Corinthians 7:13)
- He had **regretted**, *me-ta-me'lo-mai*, having to write them so sternly and causing them pain, but he ceased to feel any regret upon seeing that the sadness his rebuke produced was of a godly sort, leading to earnest **repentance**, *me-ta'noi-a*, for their wrong attitude and course. He knew that the pain he had caused them was working to their good and would cause them no damage.
- The sadness leading to **repentance** was not something they should **regret** either, for it kept them on the way of salvation, it saved them from backsliding or apostasy and gave them hope of life everlasting. He contrasts this sadness with the sadness of the world **that produces death**.

- **Such does not stem from faith and love of God and righteousness. The world's sadness, born of failure, disappointment, loss, punishment for wrongdoing, and shame**
- **For as a honeycomb the lips of a strange woman keep dripping, and her palate is smoother than oil. (Proverbs 5:3)**
- **But the aftereffect from her is as bitter as wormwood, it is as sharp as a two-edged sword. (Proverbs 5:4)**
- **Her feet are descending to death. Her very steps take hold on Sheol itself. (Proverbs 5:5)**
- **The path of life she does not contemplate. Her tracks have wandered she does not know where. (Proverbs 5:6)**
- **So now, O sons, listen to me and do not turn away from the sayings of my mouth. (Proverbs 5:7)**
- **Keep your way far off from alongside her, and do not get near to the entrance of her house. (Proverbs 5:8)**
- **That you may not give to others your dignity, nor your years to what is cruel. (Proverbs 5:9)**
- **That strangers may not satisfy themselves with your power, nor the things you got by pain be in the house of a foreigner. (Proverbs 5:10)**
- **Nor you have to groan in your future when your flesh and your organism come to an end. (Proverbs 5:11)**
- **And you will have to say; How I have hated discipline and my heart has disrespected even reproof! (Proverbs 5:12)**
- **And I have not listened to the voice of my instructors, and to my teachers I have not inclined my ear. (Proverbs 5:13)**
- **Easily I have come to be in every sort of badness in the midst of the congregation and of the assembly. (Proverbs 5:14)**
- **His own errors will catch the wicked one, and in the ropes of his own sin he will be taken hold of. (Proverbs 5:22)**

- **He will be the one to die because there is no discipline, and because in the abundance of his foolishness he goes astray. (Proverbs 5:23)**
- **Do not go forth to conduct a legal case hastily, that it may not be a question of what you will do in the culmination of it when your fellowman now humiliates you. (Proverbs 25:8)**
- **Plead your own cause with your fellowman, and do not reveal the confidential talk of another. (Proverbs 25:9)**
- **That the one listening may not put you to shame and the bad report by you can have no recall. (Proverbs 25:10)**
- **Is often accompanied by or produces bitterness, resentment, envy, and it leads to no lasting benefit, no improvement, no genuine hope.**
- **Because I have called out but you keep refusing, I have stretched out my hand but there is no one paying attention. (Proverbs 1:24)**
- **And you keep neglecting all my counsel, and my reproof you have not accepted. (Proverbs 1:25)**
- **I also, for my part, shall laugh at your own disaster, I shall mock when what you dread comes. (Proverbs 1:26)**
- **When what you dread comes just like a storm, and your own disaster gets here just like a storm wind, when distress and hard times come upon you. (Proverbs 1:27)**
- **At that time they will keep calling me, but I shall not answer, they will keep looking for me, but they will not find me. (Proverbs 1:28)**
- **For the reason that they hated knowledge, and the fear of Yehowah they did not choose. (Proverbs 1:29)**
- **They did not consent to my counsel. They disrespected all my reproof. (Proverbs 1:30)**
- **So they will eat from the fruitage of their way, and they will be gluttoned with their own counsels. (Proverbs 1:31)**

- **For the renegading of the inexperienced ones is what will kill them, and the easygoingness of the stupid is what will destroy them. (Proverbs 1:32)**
- **Moreover, brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant concerning those who are sleeping in death, that you may not sorrow just as the rest also do who have no hope. (1 Thessalonians 4:13)**
- **For if our faith is that Jesus died and rose again, so, too, those who have fallen asleep in death through Jesus God will bring with him. (1 Thessalonians 4:14)**
- **Worldly sadness mourns the unpleasant consequences of sin, but it does not mourn the sin itself and the reproach it brings on God's name.**
- **Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Look! My own servants will eat, but you yourselves will go hungry. Look! My own servants will drink, but you yourselves will go thirsty. Look! My own servants will rejoice, but you yourselves will suffer shame. (Isaiah 65:13)**
- **Look! My own servants will cry out joyfully because of the good condition of the heart, but you yourselves will make outcries because of the pain of heart and you will howl because of sheer breakdown of spirit. (Isaiah 65:14)**
- **And you men will certainly lay up your name for an oath by my chosen ones, and the Sovereign Lord Yehowah will actually put you individually to death, but his own servants he will call by another name. (Isaiah 65:15)**
- **For from the least one of them even to the greatest one of them, every one is making for himself unjust gain, and from the prophet even to the priest, each one is acting falsely. (Jeremiah 6:13)**
- **And they try to heal the breakdown of my people lightly, saying; There is peace! There is peace! When there is no peace. (Jeremiah 6:14)**
- **Did they feel shame because it was something detestable that**

- they had done? For one thing, they positively do not feel any shame, for another thing, they have not come to know even how to feel humiliated. Therefore they will fall among those who are falling, in the time that I must hold an accounting with them they will stumble, Yehowah has said. (**Jeremiah 6:15**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Look! A people is coming from the land of the north, and there is a great nation that will be awakened from the remotest parts of the earth. (**Jeremiah 6:22**)
 - The bow and the javelin they will grab hold of. It is a cruel one, and they will have no pity. Their very voice will resound just like the sea, and upon horses they will ride. It is drawn up in battle order like a man of war against you, O daughter of Zion. (**Jeremiah 6:23**)
 - We have heard the report about it. Our hands have dropped. Distress itself has seized hold of us, labor pains like those of a woman giving birth. (**Jeremiah 6:24**)
 - Do not go out into the field, and do not walk even in the way, for there is the sword belonging to the enemy, there is fright all around. (**Jeremiah 6:25**)
 - O daughter of my people, gird on sackcloth and wallow in the ashes. Make your mourning that for an only son, the wailing of bitterness, because suddenly the despoiler will come upon us. (**Jeremiah 6:26**)
 - And the kings of the earth who committed fornication with her and lived in shameless luxury will weep and beat themselves in grief over her, when they look at the smoke from the burning of her. (**Revelation 18:9**)
 - While they stand at a distance because of their fear of her torment and say; Too bad, too bad, you great city, Babylon you strong city, because in one hour your judgment has arrived! (**Revelation 18:10**)
 - Also, the traveling merchants of the earth are weeping and mourning over her, because there is no one to buy their full stock anymore. (**Revelation 18:11**)
 - The traveling merchants of these things, who became rich from

her, will stand at a distance because of their fear of her torment and will weep and mourn. (**Revelation 18:15**)

- **Because in one hour such great riches have been devastated! And every ship captain and every man that voyages anywhere, and sailors and all those who make a living by the sea, stood at a distance (**Revelation 18:17**)**
- **And cried out as they looked at the smoke from the burning of her and said; What city is like the great city? (**Revelation 18:18**)**
- **And they threw dust upon their heads and cried out, weeping and mourning, and said; Too bad, too bad, the great city, in which all those having boats at sea became rich by reason of her costliness, because in one hour she has been devastated! (**Revelation 18:19**)**
- **And Yehowah went on to say to him; Pass through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and you must put a mark on the foreheads of the men that are sighing and groaning over all the detestable things that are being done in the midst of it. (**Ezekiel 9:4**)**
- **Cain's case illustrates this, he being the first one called on by God to repent. Cain was divinely warned to turn to doing good so that sin should not win out over him.**
- **Rather than **repent** of his murderous hatred, he let it motivate him to kill his brother. Questioned by God, he gave a devious reply, and only when sentence was pronounced on him did he express any **regret** over the severity of the punishment, not over the wrong committed.**
- **He did not look with any favor upon Cain and upon his offering. And Cain grew hot with great anger, and his countenance began to fall. (**Genesis 4:5**)**
- **At this Yehowah said to Cain; Why are you hot with anger and why has your countenance fallen? (**Genesis 4:6**)**
- **If you turn to doing good, will there not be an exaltation? But if you do not turn to doing good, there is sin crouching at the entrance, and for you is its craving. And will you, for your part, get the mastery over it? (**Genesis 4:7**)**

- **After that Cain said to Abel his brother; Let us go over into the field. So it came about that while they were in the field Cain proceeded to assault Abel his brother and kill him. (Genesis 4:8)**
- **Later on Yehowah said to Cain; Where is Abel your brother? And he said; I do not know. Am I my brothers guardian? (Genesis 4:9)**
- **At this he said; What have you done? Listen! Your brothers blood is crying out to me from the ground. (Genesis 4:10)**
- **And now you are cursed in banishment from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brothers blood at your hand. (Genesis 4:11)**
- **When you cultivate the ground, it will not give you back its power. A wanderer and a fugitive you will become in the earth. (Genesis 4:12)**
- **At this Cain said to Yehowah; My punishment for error is too great to carry. (Genesis 4:13)**
- **Here you are actually driving me this day from off the surface of the ground, and from your face I shall be concealed, and I must become a wanderer and fugitive on the earth, and it is certain that anyone finding me will kill me. (Genesis 4:14)**
- **He thus showed that he originated with the wicked one.**
- **Not like Cain, who originated with the wicked one and slaughtered his brother. And for the sake of what did he slaughter him? Because his own works were wicked, but those of his brother were righteous. (1 John 3:12)**
- **Worldly sadness was also displayed by Esau when he learned that his brother Jacob had received the blessing of firstborn, a right Esau had callously sold to Jacob.**
- **Once Jacob was boiling up some stew, when Esau came along from the field and he was tired. (Genesis 25:29)**
- **So Esau said to Jacob; Quick, please, give me a swallow of the red, the red there, for I am tired! That is why his name was**

called Edom. (**Genesis 25:30**)

- To this Jacob said; Sell me, first of all, your right as firstborn! (**Genesis 25:31**)
- And Esau continued; Here I am simply going to die, and of what benefit to me is a birthright? (**Genesis 25:32**)
- And Jacob added; Swear to me first of all! And he proceeded to swear to him and to sell his right as firstborn to Jacob. (**Genesis 25:33**)
- And Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he went to eating and drinking. Then he got up and went his way. So Esau despised the birthright. (**Genesis 25:34**)
- Esau cried out in an extremely loud and bitter manner, with tears seeking, **repentance**, *me-ta'noi-a*, not his own, **but a change of mind** on the part of his father.
- On hearing his fathers words Esau began to cry out in an extremely loud and bitter manner and to say to his father; Bless me, even me too, my father! (**Genesis 27:34**)
- For you know that afterward also when he wanted to inherit the blessing he was rejected, for, although he earnestly sought **a change of mind with tears**, he found no place for it. (**Hebrews 12:17**)
- He regretted his loss, not the materialistic attitude that caused him to despise the birthright.
- And Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he went to eating and drinking. Then he got up and went his way. So Esau despised the birthright. (**Genesis 25:34**)
- Judas, after having betrayed Jesus, felt remorse, form of *me-ta-me'lo-mai*, tried to return the bribe he had bargained for, and thereafter committed suicide by hanging.
- Then Judas, who betrayed him, seeing he had been condemned, felt remorse and turned the thirty silver pieces back to the chief priests and older men. (**Matthew 27:3**)

- **Saying; I sinned when I betrayed righteous blood. They said; What is that to us? You must see to that! (Matthew 27:4)**
- **So he threw the silver pieces into the temple and withdrew, and went off and hanged himself. (Matthew 27:5)**
- **The enormity of his crime and, likely, the awful certainty of divine judgment against him evidently overwhelmed him.**
- **For if we practice sin willfully after having received the accurate knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice for sins left. (Hebrews 10:26)**
- **But there is a certain fearful expectation of judgment and there is a fiery jealousy that is going to consume those in opposition. (Hebrews 10:27)**
- **It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (Hebrews 10:31)**
- **You believe there is one God, do you? You are doing quite well. And yet the demons believe and shudder. (James 2:19)**
- **He felt the remorse of guilt, despair, even desperation, but there is nothing to show he expressed the godly sadness that leads to **repentance**, *me-ta'noi-a*. He sought out, not God, but the Jewish leaders to confess his sin to them, returning the money evidently with the mistaken idea that he could thereby to some extent undo his crime.**
- **Your gold and silver are rusted away, and their rust will be as a witness against you and will eat your fleshy parts. Something like fire is what you have stored up in the last days. (James 5:3)**
- **Look! The wages due the workers who harvested your fields but which are held up by you, keep crying out, and the calls for help on the part of the reapers have entered into the ears of Yehowah of armies. (James 5:4)**
- **Into the streets they will throw their very silver, and an abhorrent thing their own gold will become. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them in the day of Yehowah's fury. Their souls they will not satisfy, and their intestines they will not fill, for it has become a stumbling block causing their error. (Ezekiel 7:19)**

- **To the crime of treason and contributing to the death of an innocent man, he added that of self-murder. His course is in contrast with that of Peter, whose bitter weeping after having denied his Lord was due to heartfelt **repentance**, which led to his being restored.**
- **And Peter called to mind the saying Jesus spoke, namely; Before a cock crows, you will disown me three times. And he went outside and wept bitterly. (**Matthew 26:75**)**
- **Simon, Simon, look! Satan has demanded to have you men to sift you as wheat. (**Luke 22:31**)**
- **But I have made supplication for you that your faith may not give out, and you, when once you have returned, strengthen your brothers. (**Luke 22:32**)**
- **Regret, remorse, and tears, then, are not a certain measure of genuine **repentance**, the heart **motive** is determinative. Hosea voices Yehowah's denunciation of Israel, for in their distress they did not call to him for aid with their heart, although they kept howling on their beds. On account of their grain and sweet wine they kept loafing about. And they proceeded to return, not to anything higher.**
- **Their groaning for relief in time of calamity was selfishly motivated, and if granted relief, they did not use the opportunity to improve their relationship with God by closer adherence to his high standards**
- **For the thoughts of you people are not my thoughts, nor are my ways your ways, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Isaiah 55:8**)**
- **For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. (**Isaiah 55:9**)**
- **For just as the pouring rain descends, and the snow, from the heavens and does not return to that place, unless it actually saturates the earth and makes it produce and sprout, and seed is actually given to the sower and bread to the eater. (**Isaiah 55:10**)**
- **So my word that goes forth from my mouth will prove to be. It will not return to me without results, but it will certainly do that in which I have delighted, and it will have certain success in that**

- for which I have sent it. (**Isaiah 55:11**)
- They were like a **loose bow** that never hits the mark.
 - And they did not call to me for aid with their heart, although they kept howling on their beds. On account of their grain and sweet wine they kept loafing about, they kept turning against me. (**Hosea 7:14**)
 - And I, for my part, did disciplining. I strengthened their arms, but against me they kept scheming what was bad. (**Hosea 7:15**)
 - And they proceeded to return, not to anything higher, they had become like a loose bow. By the sword their princes will fall because of the denunciation of their tongue. This will be their derision in the land of Egypt. (**Hosea 7:16**)
 - They also kept turning back and acting treacherously like their forefathers, they turned around like a loose bow. (**Psalms 78:57**)
 - You do ask, and yet you do not receive, because you are asking for a wrong purpose, that you may expend it upon your cravings for sensual pleasure. (**James 4:3**)
 - **Fasting, weeping, and wailing were proper but only if the repentant ones ripped apart their hearts and not simply their garments.**
 - And now also, the utterance of Yehowah is, come back to me with all your hearts, and with fasting and with weeping and with wailing. (**Joel 2:12**)
 - And rip apart your hearts, and not your garments, and come back to Yehowah your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness, and he will certainly feel regret on account of the calamity. (**Joel 2:13**)

See Also FAST

See Also MOURNING

•• **Confession Of Wrongdoing**

- The **repentant** person, then, humbles himself and seeks God's face.

- **When I shut up the heavens that no rain may occur and when I command the grasshoppers to eat up the land and if I send a pestilence among my people. (2 Chronicles 7:13)**
- **And my people upon whom my name has been called humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn back from their bad ways, then I myself shall hear from the heavens and forgive their sin, and I shall heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)**
- **And Yehowah kept speaking to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. (2 Chronicles 33:10)**
- **Finally Yehowah brought against them the chiefs of the army that belonged to the king of Assyria, and so they captured Manasseh in the hollows and bound him with two fetters of copper and took him to Babylon. (2 Chronicles 33:11)**
- **And as soon as it caused him distress, he softened the face of Yehowah his God and kept humbling himself greatly because of the God of his forefathers. (2 Chronicles 33:12)**
- **And he kept praying to Him, so that He let himself be entreated by him and He heard his request for favor and restored him to Jerusalem to his kingship, and Manasseh came to know that Yehowah is the true God. (2 Chronicles 33:13)**
- **However, the undeserved kindness which he gives is greater. Hence it says; God opposes the haughty ones, but he gives undeserved kindness to the humble ones. (James 4:6)**
- **Subject yourselves, therefore, to God, but oppose the Devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)**
- **Draw close to God, and he will draw close to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you indecisive ones. (James 4:8)**
- **Give way to misery and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning, and your joy into dejection. (James 4:9)**
- **Humble yourselves in the eyes of Yehowah, and he will exalt you. (James 4:10)**

- **Supplicating his forgiveness.**
- **And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. (Matthew 6:12)**
- **He is not like the self-righteous Pharisee of Jesus illustration but is like the tax collector whom Jesus portrayed as beating his breast and saying; O God, be gracious to me a sinner.**
- **But he spoke this illustration also to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and who considered the rest as nothing. (Luke 18:9)**
- **Two men went up into the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. (Luke 18:10)**
- **The Pharisee stood and began to pray these things to himself; O God, I thank you I am not as the rest of men, extortioners, unrighteous, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. (Luke 18:11)**
- **I fast twice a week, I give the tenth of all things I acquire. (Luke 18:12)**
- **But the tax collector standing at a distance was not willing even to raise his eyes heavenward, but kept beating his breast, saying; O God, be gracious to me a sinner. (Luke 18:13)**
- **I tell you, This man went down to his home proved more righteous than that man, because everyone that exalts himself will be humiliated, but he that humbles himself will be exalted. (Luke 18:14)**
- **The apostle John states; If we make the statement; We have no sin. We are misleading ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so as to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- **If we make the statement; We have no sin. We are misleading ourselves and the truth is not in us. (1 John 1:8)**
- **If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so as to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)**

- **He that is covering over his transgressions will not succeed, but he that is confessing and leaving them will be shown mercy.**
- **He that is covering over his transgressions will not succeed, but he that is confessing and leaving them will be shown mercy. (Proverbs 28:13)**
- **When I kept silent my bones wore out through my groaning all day long. (Psalms 32:3)**
- **For day and night your hand was heavy upon me. My lifes moisture has been changed as in the dry heat of summer. (Psalms 32:4)**
- **My sin I finally confessed to you, and my error I did not cover. I said; I shall make confession over my transgressions to Yehowah. And you yourself pardoned the error of my sins. (Psalms 32:5)**
- **Then Joshua said to Achan; My son, render, please, glory to Yehowah the God of Israel and make confession to him, and tell me, please, What have you done? Do not hide it from me. (Joshua 7:19)**
- **At this Achan answered Joshua and said; For a fact I, I have sinned against Yehowah the God of Israel, and this way and that way I have done. (Joshua 7:20)**
- **When I got to see among the spoil an official garment from Shinar, a good-looking one, and two hundred shekels of silver and one gold bar, fifty shekels being its weight, then I wanted them, and I took them, and, look! They are hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent with the money underneath it. (Joshua 7:21)**
- **At once Joshua sent messengers, and they went running to the tent, and, look! It was hidden in his tent with the money underneath it. (Joshua 7:22)**
- **So they took them from the midst of the tent and brought them to Joshua and all the sons of Israel and poured them out before Yehowah. (Joshua 7:23)**

- Joshua, and all Israel with him, now took Achan the son of Zerah and the silver and the official garment and the bar of gold and his sons and his daughters and his bull and his ass and his flock and his tent and everything that was his and they brought them up to the low plain of Achor. ([Joshua 7:24](#))
- Then Joshua said; Why have you brought ostracism upon us? Yehowah will bring ostracism upon you on this day. With that all Israel went pelting him with stones, after which they burned them with fire. Thus they stoned them with stones. ([Joshua 7:25](#))
- And they proceeded to raise up over him a big pile of stones, down to this day. At this Yehowah turned away from his hot anger. That is why the name of that place has been called Low Plain of Achor, down to this day. ([Joshua 7:26](#))
- The sins of some men are publicly manifest, leading directly to judgment, but as for other men their sins also become manifest later. ([1 Timothy 5:24](#))
- Daniel's prayer at;**
- And now, O Yehowah our God, you who brought your people out from the land of Egypt by a strong hand and proceeded to make a name for yourself as at this day, we have sinned, we have acted wickedly. ([Daniel 9:15](#))
- O Yehowah, according to all your acts of righteousness, please, may your anger and your rage turn back from your city Jerusalem, your holy mountain, for, because of our sins and because of the errors of our forefathers, Jerusalem and your people are an object of reproach to all those round about us. ([Daniel 9:16](#))
- And now listen, O our God, to the prayer of your servant and to his entreaties, and cause your face to shine upon your sanctuary that is desolated, for the sake of Yehowah. ([Daniel 9:17](#))
- Incline your ear, O my God, and hear. Do open your eyes and see our desolated conditions and the city that has been called by your name, for not according to our righteous acts are we letting our entreaties fall before you, but according to your many mercies. ([Daniel 9:18](#))

- **O Yehowah, do hear. O Yehowah, do forgive. O Yehowah, do pay attention and act. Do not delay, for your own sake, O my God, for your own name has been called upon your city and upon your people. (Daniel 9:19)**
- **Is a model of sincere confession, expressing prime concern for Yehowah's name and basing its appeal not according to our righteous acts, but according to your many mercies. Compare, also, the humble expression of the prodigal son.**
- **When he came to his senses, he said; How many hired men of my father are abounding with bread, while I am perishing here from famine! (Luke 15:17)**
- **I will rise and journey to my father and say to him; Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. (Luke 15:18)**
- **I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Make me as one of your hired men. (Luke 15:19)**
- **So he rose and went to his father. While he was yet a long way off, his father caught sight of him and was moved with pity, and he ran and fell upon his neck and tenderly kissed him. (Luke 15:20)**
- **Then the son said to him; Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Make me as one of your hired men. (Luke 15:21)**
- **Sincerely repentant ones raise their heart along with their palms to God, confessing their transgression and seeking forgiveness.**
- **Do let us search out our ways and explore them, and do let us return clear to Yehowah. (Lamentations 3:40)**
- **Let us raise our heart along with our palms to God in the heavens. (Lamentations 3:41)**
- **We ourselves have transgressed, and we have behaved rebelliously. You yourself have not forgiven. (Lamentations 3:42)**

·· **Confessing Sins To One Another**

- **The disciple James counsels; Openly confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may get healed.**
- **Therefore openly confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may get healed. A righteous man's supplication, when it is at work, has much force. (James 5:16)**
- **Such confession is not because any human serves as helper advocate, RS, for man with God, since Christ alone fills that role by virtue of his propitiatory sacrifice.**
- **My little children, I am writing you these things that you may not commit a sin. And yet, if anyone does commit a sin, we have a helper with the Father, Jesus Christ, a righteous one. (1 John 2:1)**
- **And he is a propitiatory sacrifice for our sins, yet not for ours only but also for the whole world's. (1 John 2:2)**
- **Human's, of themselves, cannot actually right the wrong toward God, on their own behalf or on behalf of others, being unable to provide the needed atonement.**
- **Not one of them can by any means redeem even a brother, nor give to God a ransom for him. (Psalms 49:7)**
- **And the redemption price of their soul is so precious that it has ceased to time indefinite (Psalms 49:8)**
- **However, Christians can help one another, and their prayers on behalf of their brothers, while not having an effect on God's application of justice, since Christ's ransom alone serves to bring remission of sins, do count with God in petitioning his giving needed help and strength to the one who has sinned and is seeking aid.**

See Also PRAYER (The Answering of Prayers)

· Conversion A Turning Back

- **Repentance** marks a halt in the persons wrong course, the rejection of that wrong way, and the determination to take a right course. If genuine, it will therefore be followed by conversion.

- Accordingly, after being conducted partway by the congregation, these men continued on their way through both Phoenicia and Samaria, relating in detail the conversion of people of the nations, and they were causing great joy to all the brothers. **(Acts of Apostles 15:3)**
- Both in **Hebrew** and in **Greek** the verbs relating to conversion **Hebrew, *shuv*, Greek, *stre'pho, e-pi-stre'pho*** mean simply, **turn back, turn around, or return.**
- So he continued; I am surely going to return to you next year at this time, and, look! Sarah your wife will have a son. Now Sarah was listening at the tent entrance, and it was behind the man. **(Genesis 18:10)**
- An answer, when mild, turns away rage, but a word causing pain makes anger to come up. **(Proverbs 15:1)**
- And the vessel that he was making with the clay was spoiled by the potters hand, and he turned back and went making it into another vessel, just as it looked right in the eyes of the potter to make. **(Jeremiah 18:4)**
- He has blinded their eyes and he has made their hearts hard, that they should not see with their eyes and get the thought with their hearts and turn around and I should heal them. **(John 12:40)**
- Upon turning about Peter saw the disciple whom Jesus used to love following, the one who at the evening meal had also leaned back upon his breast and said; Lord, who is the one betraying you? **(John 21:20)**
- Now after some days Paul said to Barnabas; Above all things, let us return and visit the brothers in every one of the cities in which we published the word of Yehowah to see how they are. **(Acts of Apostles 15:36)**
- Used in a **spiritual** sense, this can refer to either a turning away from God, hence turning back to a sinful course.
- For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and you are certain to fall by the sword, because, for the reason that you turned back from following Yehowah, Yehowah will not

continue with you. (**Numbers 14:43**)

- But if your heart turns away and you do not listen, and you are actually seduced and bow down to other gods and serve them. (**Deuteronomy 30:17**)
- Or a turning to God from a wrong way.
- When your people Israel are defeated before the enemy, because they kept sinning against you, and they indeed return to you and laud your name and pray and make request for favor toward you in this house. (**1 Kings 8:33**)
- Conversion implies more than a mere attitude or verbal expression, it involves **the works that befit repentance**.
- But both to those in Damascus first and to those in Jerusalem, and over all the country of Judea, and to the nations I went bringing the message that they should repent and turn to God by doing **works that befit repentance**. (**Acts of Apostles 26:20**)
- So then produce fruit that befits **repentance**. (**Matthew 3:8**)
- It is an **active seeking, searching, inquiring** for Yehowah with all ones heart and soul.
- If you do look for Yehowah your God from there, you will also certainly find him, because you will inquire for him with all your heart and with all your soul. (**Deuteronomy 4:29**)
- And they indeed return to you with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies who carried them off captive, and they indeed pray to you in the direction of their land that you gave to their forefathers, the city that you have chosen and the house that I have built to your name. (**1 Kings 8:48**)
- And you will certainly call me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. (**Jeremiah 29:12**)
- And you will actually seek me and find me, for you will search for me with all your heart. (**Jeremiah 29:13**)
- And I will let myself be found by you, is the utterance of Yehowah. And I will gather your body of captives and collect you

- together out of all the nations and out of all the places to which I have dispersed you, is the utterance of Yehowah. And I will bring you back to the place from which I caused you to go into exile. (**Jeremiah 29:14**)
- **This, of necessity, means seeking God's favor by listening to his voice as expressed in his Word.**
 - **When you are in sore straits and all these words have found you out at the close of the days, then you will have to return to Yehowah your God and to listen to his voice. (**Deuteronomy 4:30**)**
 - **And you have returned to Yehowah your God and listened to his voice according to all that I am commanding you today, you and your sons, with all your heart and all your soul. (**Deuteronomy 30:2**)**
 - **As for you, you will turn and certainly listen to the voice of Yehowah and do all his commandments that I am commanding you today. (**Deuteronomy 30:8**)**
 - **Showing insight into his trueness through better understanding and appreciation of his ways and will.**
 - **Just as it is written in the Law of Moses, all this calamity, it has come upon us, and we have not softened the face of Yehowah our God by turning back from our error and by showing insight into your trueness. (**Daniel 9:13**)**
 - **Observing and **doing** his commandments.**
 - **When you will have returned to me and kept my commandments and done them, though your dispersed people should happen to be at the end of the heavens, from there I shall collect them and certainly bring them to the place that I have chosen to have my name reside there. (**Nehemiah 1:9**)**
 - **For you will listen to the voice of Yehowah your God so as to keep his commandments and his statutes written in this book of the law, because you will return to Yehowah your God with all your heart and all your soul. (**Deuteronomy 30:10**)**
 - **And also the spirit mediums and the professional foretellers of events and the teraphim and the dungy idols and all the**

- disgusting things that had appeared in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem Josiah cleared out, in order, that he might actually carry out the words of the Law that were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest had found at the house of Yehowah. ([2 Kings 23:24](#))
- **And like him there did not prove to be a king prior to him who returned to Yehowah with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his vital force, according to all the Law of Moses, neither after him has there risen up one like him. ([2 Kings 23:25](#))**
 - **Keeping loving-kindness and justice and hoping in God constantly.**
 - **And as respects you, to your God you should return, keeping loving-kindness and justice, and let there be a hoping in your God constantly. ([Hosea 12:6](#))**
 - **Abandoning the use of religious images or the idolizing of creatures so as to direct ones heart unswervingly to Yehowah and serve him alone.**
 - **And Samuel proceeded to say to all the house of Israel; If it is with all your heart you are returning to Yehowah, put away the foreign gods from your midst and also the Ashtoreth images, and direct your heart unswervingly to Yehowah and serve him alone, and he will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines. ([1 Samuel 7:3](#))**
 - **And the crowds, seeing what Paul had done, raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian tongue; The gods have become like human's and have come down to us! ([Acts of Apostles 14:11](#))**
 - **And they went calling Barnabas Zeus, but Paul Hermes, since he was the one taking the lead in speaking. ([Acts of Apostles 14:12](#))**
 - **And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was before the city, brought bulls and garlands to the gates and was desiring to offer sacrifices with the crowds. ([Acts of Apostles 14:13](#))**
 - **However, when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they ripped their outer garments and leaped out into the crowd, crying out. ([Acts of Apostles 14:14](#))**

- **And saying; Men, why are you doing these things? We also are human's having the same infirmities as you do, and are declaring the Good News to you, for you to turn from these vain things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all the things in them. (Acts of Apostles 14:15)**
- **For they themselves keep reporting about the way we first entered in among you and how you turned to God from your idols to slave for a living and true God. (1 Thessalonians 1:9)**
- **And to wait for his Son from the heavens, whom he raised up from the dead, namely, Jesus, who delivers us from the wrath which is coming. (1 Thessalonians 1:10)**
- **And walking in his ways and not in the way of the nations.**
- **And you must not walk in the statutes of the nations whom I am sending out from before you, because they have done all these things and I abhor them. (Leviticus 20:23)**
- **Or in ones own way,**
- **Search for Yehowah, you people, while he may be found. Call to him while he proves to be near. (Isaiah 55:6)**
- **Let the wicked man leave his way, and the harmful man his thoughts, and let him return to Yehowah, who will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for he will forgive in a large way. (Isaiah 55:7)**
- **For the thoughts of you people are not my thoughts, nor are my ways your ways, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Isaiah 55:8)**
- **Prayers, sacrifices, fastings, and observance of sacred festivals are meaningless and are of no value with God unless they are accompanied by good works, justice, the elimination of oppression and violence, the exercise of mercy.**
- **Hear the word of Yehowah, you dictators of Sodom. Give ear to the Law of our God, you people of Gomorrah. (Isaiah 1:10)**
- **Of what benefit to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says Yehowah. I have had enough of whole burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed animals, and in the blood of young bulls**

and male lambs and he-goats I have taken no delight. (**Isaiah 1:11**)

- When you people keep coming in to see my face, who is it that has required this from your hand, to trample my courtyards? (**Isaiah 1:12**)
- Stop bringing in any more valueless grain offerings. Incense, it is something detestable to me. New moon and Sabbath, the calling of a convention, I cannot put up with the use of uncanny power along with the solemn assembly. (**Isaiah 1:13**)
- Your new moons and your festal seasons my soul has hated. To me they have become a burden, I have become tired of bearing them. (**Isaiah 1:14**)
- And when you spread out your palms, I hide my eyes from you. Even though you make many prayers, I am not listening. With bloodshed your very hands have become filled. (**Isaiah 1:15**)
- Wash yourselves. Make yourselves clean. Remove the badness of your dealings from in front of my eyes. Cease to do bad. (**Isaiah 1:16**)
- Learn to do good. Search for justice. Set right the oppressor. Render judgment for the fatherless boy. Plead the cause of the widow. (**Isaiah 1:17**)
- Come, now, you people, and let us set matters straight between us, says Yehowah. Though the sins of you people should prove to be as scarlet, they will be made white just like snow, though they should be red like crimson cloth, they will become even like wool. (**Isaiah 1:18**)
- If you people show willingness and do listen, the good of the land you will eat. (**Isaiah 1:19**)
- For what reason did we fast and you did not see, and did we afflict our soul and you would take no note? Indeed you people were finding delight in the very day of your fasting, when there were all your toilers that you kept driving to work. (**Isaiah 58:3**)
- Indeed for quarreling and struggle you would fast, and for striking with the fist of wickedness. Did you not keep fasting as

**in the day for making your voice to be heard in the height?
(Isaiah 58:4)**

- **Should the fast that I choose become like this, as a day for earthling man to afflict his soul? For bowing down his head just like a rush, and that he should spread out mere sackcloth and ashes as his couch? Is it this that you call a fast and a day acceptable to Yehowah? (Isaiah 58:5)**
- **Is not this the fast that I choose? To loosen the fetters of wickedness, to release the bands of the yoke bar, and to send away the crushed ones free, and that you people should tear in two every yoke bar? (Isaiah 58:6)**
- **Is it not the dividing of your bread out to the hungry one, and that you should bring the afflicted, homeless people into your house? That, in case you should see someone naked, you must cover him, and that you should not hide yourself from your own flesh? (Isaiah 58:7)**
- **And now say; please, to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am forming against you a calamity and thinking against you a thought. Turn back, please, each one from his bad way, and make your ways and your dealings good. (Jeremiah 18:11)**
- **This calls for a new heart and a new spirit.**
- **Throw off from yourselves all your transgressions in which you have transgressed and make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit, for why should you die, O house of Israel? (Ezekiel 18:31)**
- **Ones changed thinking, motivation, and aim in life produce a new frame of mind, disposition, and moral force. For the one whose life course changes, the result is a new personality which was created according to God's will in true righteousness and loyalty.**
- **This, therefore, I say and bear witness to in the Lord, that you no longer go on walking just as the nations also walk in the unprofitableness of their minds. (Ephesians 4:17)**
- **While they are in darkness mentally, and alienated from the life that belongs to God, because of the ignorance that is in them,**

because of the insensibility of their hearts. (**Ephesians 4:18**)

- Having come to be past all moral sense, they gave themselves over to loose conduct to work uncleanness of every sort with greediness. (**Ephesians 4:19**)
- But you did not learn the Christ to be so. (**Ephesians 4:20**)
- Provided, indeed, that you heard him and were taught by means of him, just as truth is in Jesus. (**Ephesians 4:21**)
- That you should put away the old personality which conforms to your former course of conduct and which is being corrupted according to his deceptive desires. (**Ephesians 4:22**)
- But that you should be made new in the force actuating your mind. (**Ephesians 4:23**)
- And should put on the new personality which was created according to God's will in true righteousness and loyalty. (**Ephesians 4:24**)
- Free from immorality, covetousness, as well as violent speech and conduct.
- Deaden, therefore, your body members that are upon the earth as respects fornication, uncleanness, sexual appetite, hurtful desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. (**Colossians 3:5**)
- On account of those things the wrath of God is coming. (**Colossians 3:6**)
- In those very things you, too, once walked when you used to live in them. (**Colossians 3:7**)
- But now really put them all away from you, wrath, anger, badness, abusive speech, and obscene talk out of your mouth. (**Colossians 3:8**)
- Do not be lying to one another. Strip off the old personality with its practices. (**Colossians 3:9**)
- And clothe yourselves with the new personality, which through accurate knowledge is being made new according to the image of

- the One who created it. (**Colossians 3:10**)
- Their dealings do not permit of a returning to their God, because there is a spirit of fornication in the midst of them, and Yehowah himself they have not acknowledged. (**Hosea 5:4**)
 - And the pride of Israel has testified to his face, and Israel and Ephraim themselves are made to stumble in their error. Judah has also stumbled with them. (**Hosea 5:5**)
 - With their flock and with their herd they proceeded to go and look for Yehowah, but they could not find him. He had drawn away from them. (**Hosea 5:6**)
 - For such ones God causes the spirit of wisdom to bubble forth, making his words known to them.
 - Turn back at my reproof. Then to you I will cause my spirit to bubble forth. I will make my words known to you. (**Proverbs 1:23**)
 - Instructing with mildness those not favorably disposed, as perhaps God may give them **repentance** leading to an accurate knowledge of truth. (**2 Timothy 2:25**)
 - Thus genuine **repentance** has real impact, generates force, moves the person to turn around.
 - **Repent**, therefore, and turn around so as to get your sins blotted out, that seasons of refreshing may come from the person of Yehowah. (**Acts of Apostles 3:19**)
 - Hence Jesus could say to those in Laodicea; Be **zealous** and **repent**.
 - All those for whom I have affection I reprove and discipline. Therefore be zealous and repent. (**Revelation 3:19**)
 - Therefore remember from what you have fallen, and repent and do the former deeds. If you do not, I am coming to you, and I will remove your lampstand from its place, unless you **repent**. (**Revelation 2:5**)
 - Become watchful, and strengthen the things remaining that were

ready to die, for I have not found your deeds fully performed before my God. (**Revelation 3:2**)

- Therefore, continue mindful of how you have received and how you heard, and go on keeping it, and **repent**. Certainly unless you wake up, I shall come as a thief, and you will not know at all at what hour I shall come upon you. (**Revelation 3:3**)
- There is evidence of great earnestness, clearing of oneself, godly fear, longing, and righting of the wrong.
- For sadness in a godly way makes for **repentance** to salvation that is not to be regretted, but the sadness of the world produces death. (**2 Corinthians 7:10**)
- For, look! this very thing, your being saddened in a godly way, what a great earnestness it produced in you, yes, clearing of yourselves, yes, indignation, yes, fear, yes, longing, yes, zeal, yes, righting of the wrong! In every respect you demonstrated yourselves to be chaste in this matter. (**2 Corinthians 7:11**)
- Absence of concern for rectifying wrongs committed shows lack of true **repentance**.
- And when I say to the wicked one; You will positively die, and he actually turns back from his sin and carries on justice and righteousness. (**Ezekiel 33:14**)
- And the wicked one returns the very thing pledged, pays back the very things taken by robbery, and actually walks in the very statutes of life by not doing injustice, he will positively keep living. He will not die. (**Ezekiel 33:15**)
- But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord; Look! The half of my belongings, Lord, I am giving to the poor, and whatever I extorted from anyone by false accusation I am restoring fourfold. (**Luke 19:8**)
- The expression, **newly converted man**, **recent convert**, **RS**, in Greek, *ne-o'phy-tos*, literally means, **newly planted** or **newly grown**.
- Not a **newly converted man**, for fear that he might get puffed up with pride and fall into the judgment passed upon the Devil. (**1 Timothy 3:6**)

- **Such a man was not to be assigned ministerial duties in a congregation lest he become puffed up with pride and fall into the judgment passed upon the Devil.**

· **Dead Works From Which Christians Must Repent**

- **For this reason, now that we have left the primary doctrine about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying a foundation again, namely, **repentance from dead works**, and faith toward God. (**Hebrews 6:1**)**

- **The teaching on baptisms and the laying on of the hands, the resurrection of the dead and everlasting judgment. (**Hebrews 6:2**)**

- **Shows that primary doctrine includes **repentance from dead works**, and faith toward God, followed by the teaching on baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection, and everlasting judgment. The dead works, an expression appearing elsewhere only at.**

- **How much more will the blood of the Christ, who through an everlasting spirit offered himself without blemish to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works that we may render sacred service to the living God? (**Hebrews 9:14**)**

- **Evidently mean not merely sinful works of wrongdoing, works of the fallen flesh that lead one to death.**

- **For the minding of the flesh means death, but the minding of the spirit means life and peace. (**Romans 8:6**)**

- **Because he who is sowing with a view to his flesh will reap corruption from his flesh, but he who is sowing with a view to the spirit will reap everlasting life from the spirit. (**Galatians 6:8**)**

- **But all works that in themselves are spiritually dead, vain, fruitless.**

- **This would include works of self-justification, efforts by men to establish their own righteousness apart from Christ Jesus and his ransom sacrifice.**

- Thus, the formal observance of the Law by the Jewish religious leaders and others constituted **dead works** because it lacked the vital ingredient of **faith**.
- What shall we say, then? That people of the nations, although not pursuing righteousness, caught up with righteousness, the righteousness that results from faith. (**Romans 9:30**)
- But Israel, although pursuing a Law of righteousness, did not attain to the Law. (**Romans 9:31**)
- For what reason? Because he pursued it, not by faith, but as by works. They stumbled on the stone of stumbling. (**Romans 9:32**)
- As it is written: Look! I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock-mass of offense, but he that rests his faith on it will not come to disappointment. (**Romans 9:33**)
- For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to accurate knowledge. (**Romans 10:2**)
- For, because of not knowing the righteousness of God but seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God. (**Romans 10:3**)
- For Christ is the end of the Law, so that everyone exercising faith may have righteousness. (**Romans 10:4**)
- This caused them to stumble at Christ Jesus, God's Chief Agent to give **repentance** to Israel and forgiveness of sins, instead of **repenting**.
- God exalted this one as Chief Agent and Savior to his right hand, to give **repentance** to Israel and forgiveness of sins. (**Acts of Apostles 5:31**)
- And we are witnesses of these matters, and so is the Holy Spirit, which God has given to those obeying him as ruler. (**Acts of Apostles 5:32**)
- When they heard this, they felt deeply cut and were wanting to do away with them. (**Acts of Apostles 5:33**)
- To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone putting faith in him gets forgiveness of sins through his name. (**Acts of**

Apostles 10:43)

- **But I thoroughly bore witness both to Jews and to Greeks about **repentance** toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus. (Acts of Apostles 20:21)**
- **So, too, would the observance of the Law, as though it were still in force, become **dead works** after Christ Jesus had fulfilled it.**
- **Knowing as we do that a man is declared righteous, not due to works of law, but only through faith toward Christ Jesus, even we have put our faith in Christ Jesus, that we may be declared righteous due to faith toward Christ, and not due to works of law, because due to works of Law no flesh will be declared righteous. (Galatians 2:16)**
- **Similarly, all works done that might otherwise be of value become **dead works** if the motivation is not that of love, love of God and love of neighbor.**
- **If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels but do not have love, I have become a sounding piece of brass or a clashing cymbal. (1 Corinthians 13:1)**
- **And if I have the gift of prophesying and am acquainted with all the sacred secrets and all knowledge, and if I have all the faith so as to transplant mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. (1 Corinthians 13:2)**
- **And if I give all my belongings to feed others, and if I hand over my body, that I may boast, but do not have love, I am not profited at all. (1 Corinthians 13:3)**
- **Love, in turn, must be **in deed and truth**, harmonizing with God's will and ways communicated to us through his Word.**
- **Little children, let us love, neither in word nor with the tongue, **but in deed and truth**. (1 John 3:18)**
- **By this we gain the knowledge that we are loving the children of God, when **we are loving God and doing his commandments**. (1 John 5:2)**
- **For this is what the love of God means, that **we observe his****

commandments, and yet his commandments are not burdensome. (1 John 5:3)

- Not everyone saying to me, Lord, Lord, will enter into the kingdom of the heavens, but **the one doing the will** of my Father who is in the heavens will. (Matthew 7:21)
- Many will say to me in that day; Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and expel demons in your name, and perform many powerful works in your name? (Matthew 7:22)
- And yet then I will confess to them; I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness. (Matthew 7:23)
- He must not honor his father at all. And so you have made the word of God invalid because of your tradition. (Matthew 15:6)
- You hypocrites, Isaiah aptly prophesied about you, when he said; (Matthew 15:7)
- This people honors me with their lips, yet their heart is far removed from me. (Matthew 15:8)
- It is in vain that they keep worshiping me, because they teach commands of men as doctrines. (Matthew 15:9)
- For the word of God is alive and exerts power and is sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and of joints and their marrow, and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)
- The one turning in faith to God through Christ Jesus repents from all works rightly classed as **dead works**, and thereafter avoids them, his conscience thereby becoming cleansed.
- How much more will the blood of the Christ, who through an everlasting spirit offered himself without blemish to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works that we may render sacred service to the living God? (Hebrews 9:14)
- Baptism, immersion in water, except in the case of Jesus, was a divinely provided symbol associated with **repentance**, both on the part of those among the Jewish nation, which had failed to keep God's

covenant while it was in force, and on the part of people of the nations who turned around to render sacred service to God.

- **I, for my part, baptize you with water because of your **repentance**, but the one coming after me is stronger than I am, whose sandals I am not fit to take off. That one will baptize you people with Holy Spirit and with fire. (**Matthew 3:11**)**
- **Peter said to them; Repent, and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the free gift of the Holy Spirit. (**Acts of Apostles 2:38**)**
- **And the faithful ones that had come with Peter who were of those circumcised were amazed, because the free gift of the Holy Spirit was being poured out also upon people of the nations. (**Acts of Apostles 10:45**)**
- **For they heard them speaking with tongues and magnifying God. Then Peter responded. (**Acts of Apostles 10:46**)**
- **Can anyone forbid water so that these might not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit even as we have? (**Acts of Apostles 10:47**)**
- **With that he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they requested him to remain for some days. (**Acts of Apostles 10:48**)**
- **From the offspring of this man according to his promise God has brought to Israel a savior, Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 13:23**)**
- **After John, in advance of the entry of that One, had preached publicly to all the people of Israel baptism in symbol of **repentance**. (**Acts of Apostles 13:24**)**
- **Paul said; John baptized with the baptism in symbol of **repentance**, telling the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 19:4**)**

See Also BAPTISM

.. Unrepentant

- Lack of genuine **repentance** led to exile for Israel and Judah, two destructions of Jerusalem, and finally, complete rejection of the nation by God.
- When reproved, they did not really return to God but kept going back into the popular course, like a horse that is dashing into the battle.
- And you must say to them; This is what Yehowah has said; Will they fall and not get up again? If one would turn back, will the other not also turn back? (**Jeremiah 8:4**)
- Why is it that this people, Jerusalem, is unfaithful with an enduring unfaithfulness? They have taken hold of trickiness, they have refused to turn back. (**Jeremiah 8:5**)
- I have paid attention, and I kept listening. It was not right the way they kept speaking. There was not a man repenting over his badness, saying; What have I done? Each one is going back into the popular course, like a horse that is dashing into the battle. (**Jeremiah 8:6**)
- And they continued to serve dungy idols, concerning which Yehowah had said to them; You must not do this thing. (**2 Kings 17:12**)
- And Yehowah kept warning Israel and Judah by means of all his prophets and every visionary, saying; **Turn back** from your bad ways and keep my commandments, my statutes, according to all the Law that I commanded your forefathers and that I have sent to you by means of my servants the prophets. (**2 Kings 17:13**)
- And they did not listen but kept hardening their necks like the necks of their forefathers that had not exercised faith in Yehowah their God. (**2 Kings 17:14**)
- And they continued rejecting his regulations and his covenant that he had concluded with their forefathers and his reminders with which he had warned them, and they went following vain idols and became vain themselves, even in imitation of the nations that were all around them, concerning whom Yehowah had commanded them not to do like them. (**2 Kings 17:15**)
- And they kept leaving all the commandments of Yehowah their

- God and proceeded to make for themselves molten statues, two calves, and to make a sacred pole, and they began to bow down to all the army of the heavens and to serve Baal. (2 Kings 17:16)**
- **And they continued to make their sons and their daughters pass through the fire and to practice divination and to look for omens, and they kept selling themselves to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, to offend him. (2 Kings 17:17)**
 - **Therefore Yehowah got very incensed against Israel, so that he removed them from his sight. He did not let any remain but the tribe of Judah alone. (2 Kings 17:18)**
 - **Even Judah itself did not keep the commandments of Yehowah their God, but they went walking in the statutes of Israel that they had made. (2 Kings 17:19)**
 - **Consequently Yehowah rejected all the seed of Israel and kept afflicting them and giving them into the hand of pillagers, until he had cast them away from before him. (2 Kings 17:20)**
 - **For he ripped Israel off from the house of David, and they proceeded to make Jeroboam the son of Nebat king, and Jeroboam proceeded to part Israel from following Yehowah, and he caused them to sin with a great sin. (2 Kings 17:21)**
 - **And the sons of Israel went walking in all the sins of Jeroboam that he had done. They did not depart from them. (2 Kings 17:22)**
 - **Until Yehowah removed Israel from his sight, just as he had spoken by means of all his servants the prophets. So Israel went off its own soil into exile in Assyria down to this day. (2 Kings 17:23)**
 - **Twenty-one years old was Zedekiah when he began to reign, and for eleven years he reigned in Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 36:11)**
 - **And he continued to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah his God. He did not humble himself on account of Jeremiah the prophet at the order of Yehowah. (2 Chronicles 36:12)**
 - **And even against King Nebuchadnezzar he rebelled, who had made him swear by God, and he kept stiffening his neck and**

hardening his heart so as not to return to Yehowah the God of Israel. (2 Chronicles 36:13)

- Even all the chiefs of the priests and the people themselves committed unfaithfulness on a large scale, according to all the detestable things of the nations, so that they defiled the house of Yehowah which he had sanctified in Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 36:14)
- And Yehowah the God of their forefathers kept sending against them by means of his messengers, sending again and again, because he felt compassion for his people and for his dwelling. (2 Chronicles 36:15)
- But they were continually making jest at the messengers of the true God and despising his words and mocking at his prophets, until the rage of Yehowah came up against his people, until there was no healing. (2 Chronicles 36:16)
- So he brought up against them the king of the Chaldeans, who proceeded to kill their young men with the sword in the house of their sanctuary, neither did he feel compassion for young man or virgin, old or decrepit. Everything He gave into his hand. (2 Chronicles 36:17)
- And all the utensils, great and small, of the house of the true God and the treasures of the house of Yehowah and the treasures of the king and of his princes, everything he brought to Babylon. (2 Chronicles 36:18)
- And he proceeded to burn the house of the true God and pull down the wall of Jerusalem, and all its dwelling towers they burned with fire and also all its desirable articles, so as to cause ruin. (2 Chronicles 36:19)
- Furthermore, he carried off those remaining from the sword captive to Babylon, and they came to be servants to him and his sons until the royalty of Persia began to reign. (2 Chronicles 36:20)
- To fulfill Yehowah's word by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had paid off its Sabbaths. All the days of lying desolated it kept Sabbath, to fulfill seventy years. (2 Chronicles 36:21)

- **And when he got nearby, he viewed the city and wept over it. (Luke 19:41)**
- **Saying; If you, even you, had discerned in this day the things having to do with peace, but now they have been hid from your eyes. (Luke 19:42)**
- **Because the days will come upon you when your enemies will build around you a fortification with pointed stakes and will encircle you and distress you from every side. (Luke 19:43)**
- **And they will dash you and your children within you to the ground, and they will not leave a stone upon a stone in you, because you did not discern the time of your being inspected. (Luke 19:44)**
- **Hear another illustration; There was a man, a householder, who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and erected a tower, and let it out to cultivators, and traveled abroad. (Matthew 21:33)**
- **When the season of the fruits came around, he dispatched his slaves to the cultivators to get his fruits. (Matthew 21:34)**
- **However, the cultivators took his slaves, and one they beat up, another they killed, another they stoned. (Matthew 21:35)**
- **Again he dispatched other slaves, more than the first, but they did the same to these. (Matthew 21:36)**
- **Lastly he dispatched his son to them, saying; They will respect my son. (Matthew 21:37)**
- **On seeing the son the cultivators said among themselves; This is the heir, come, let us kill him and get his inheritance! (Matthew 21:38)**
- **So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. (Matthew 21:39)**
- **Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those cultivators? (Matthew 21:40)**
- **They said to him; Because they are evil, he will bring an evil**

- destruction upon them and will let out the vineyard to other cultivators, who will render him the fruits when they become due. (**Matthew 21:41**)
- Jesus said to them; Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected is the one that has become the chief cornerstone. From Yehowah this has come to be, and it is marvelous in our eyes? (**Matthew 21:42**)
 - This is why I say to you, The kingdom of God will be taken from you and be given to a nation producing its fruits. (**Matthew 21:43**)
 - Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the killer of the prophets and stoner of those sent forth to her, how often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks together under her wings! But you people did not want it. (**Matthew 23:37**)
 - Look! Your house is abandoned to you. (**Matthew 23:38**)
 - Because in their heart they did not want to **repent and turn back**, what they heard and saw brought no understanding and knowledge, a veil lay on their hearts.
 - And he went on to say; Go, and you must say to this people, Hear again and again, O men, but do not understand, and see again and again, but do not get any knowledge. (**Isaiah 6:9**)
 - Make the heart of this people unreceptive, and make their very ears unresponsive, and paste their very eyes together, that they may not see with their eyes and with their ears they may not hear, and that their own heart may not understand and that they may not actually turn back and get healing for themselves. (**Isaiah 6:10**)
 - Therefore, as we have such a hope, we are using great freeness of speech. (**2 Corinthians 3:12**)
 - And not doing as when Moses would put a veil upon his face, that the sons of Israel might not gaze intently at the end of that which was to be done away with. (**2 Corinthians 3:13**)
 - But their mental powers were dulled. For to this present day the

- same veil remains unlifted at the reading of the old covenant, because it is done away with by means of Christ. (**2 Corinthians 3:14**)
- In fact, down till today whenever Moses is read, a veil lies upon their hearts. (**2 Corinthians 3:15**)
 - But when there is a turning to Yehowah, the veil is taken away. (**2 Corinthians 3:16**)
 - Now Yehowah is the Spirit, and where the spirit of Yehowah is, there is freedom. (**2 Corinthians 3:17**)
 - And all of us, while we with unveiled faces reflect like mirrors the glory of Yehowah, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, exactly as done by Yehowah the Spirit. (**2 Corinthians 3:18**)
 - If, now, the Good News we declare is in fact veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. (**2 Corinthians 4:3**)
 - Among whom the god of this system of things has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, that the illumination of the glorious Good News about the Christ, who is the image of God, might not shine through. (**2 Corinthians 4:4**)
 - **Unfaithful religious leaders and prophets, as well as false prophetesses, contributed to this, strengthening the people in their wrongdoing.**
 - And in the prophets of Jerusalem I have seen horrible things, committing adultery and walking in falsehood, and they have strengthened the hands of evildoers in order, that they should not return, each one from his own badness. To me all of them have become like Sodom, and the inhabitants of her like Gomorrah. (**Jeremiah 23:14**)
 - And as for you, O son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people who are acting as prophetesses out of their own heart, and prophesy against them. (**Ezekiel 13:17**)
 - By reason of dejecting the heart of a righteous one with falsehood, when I myself had not caused him pain, and for making the hands of a wicked one strong so that he would not

- turn back from his bad way in order to preserve him alive.
([Ezekiel 13:22](#))
- Therefore untruth you women will not keep on visioning, and divination you will divine no longer, and I will deliver my people out of your hand, and you will have to know that I am Yehowah.
([Ezekiel 13:23](#))
 - Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you shut up the kingdom of the heavens before men, for you yourselves do not go in, neither do you permit those on their way in to go in.
([Matthew 23:13](#))
 - Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you traverse sea and dry land to make one proselyte, and when he becomes one you make him a subject for Gehenna twice as much so as yourselves. ([Matthew 23:15](#))
 - Christian prophecies foretold that future divine action reproving men and calling them to **repentance** would be similarly rejected by many.
 - It foretold that the things they would suffer would only harden and embitter them to the point of blaspheming God, even though it would be their own rejection of his righteous ways that would form the root and generative cause of all their troubles and plagues.
 - But the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues did not repent of the works of their hands, so that they should not worship the demons and the idols of gold and silver and copper and stone and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk.
([Revelation 9:20](#))
 - And they did not repent of their murders nor of their spiritistic practices nor of their fornication nor of their thefts. ([Revelation 9:21](#))
 - And the men were scorched with great heat, but they blasphemed the name of God, who has the authority over these plagues, and they did not repent so as to give glory to him.
([Revelation 16:9](#))
 - But they blasphemed the God of heaven for their pains and for their ulcers, and they did not repent of their works. ([Revelation](#)

16:11)

- **Such ones store up wrath for themselves on the day of revealing God's judgment.**
- **But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath and of the revealing of God's righteous judgment. (Romans 2:5)**

·· Beyond Repentance

- **Those practicing sin willfully after having received the accurate knowledge of the truth have gone beyond the point of **repentance**, for they have rejected the very purpose for which God's Son died and so have joined the ranks of those who sentenced him to death, in effect, impaling the Son of God afresh for themselves and exposing him to public shame.**
- **For it is impossible as regards those who have once for all been enlightened, and who have tasted the heavenly free gift, and who have become partakers of Holy Spirit. (Hebrews 6:4)**
- **And who have tasted the fine word of God and powers of the coming system of things. (Hebrews 6:5)**
- **But who have fallen away, to revive them again to **repentance**, because they impale the Son of God afresh for themselves and expose him to public shame. (Hebrews 6:6)**
- **For example, the ground that drinks in the rain which often comes upon it, and that then brings forth vegetation suitable to those for whom it is also cultivated, receives in return a blessing from God. (Hebrews 6:7)**
- **But if it produces thorns and thistles, it is rejected and is near to being cursed, and it ends up with being burned. (Hebrews 6:8)**
- **For if we practice sin willfully after having received the accurate knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice for sins left. (Hebrews 10:26)**
- **But there is a certain fearful expectation of judgment and there is a fiery jealousy that is going to consume those in opposition. (Hebrews 10:27)**

- **Any man that has disregarded the Law of Moses dies without compassion, upon the testimony of two or three. (Hebrews 10:28)**
- **Of how much more severe a punishment, do you think, will the man be counted worthy who has trampled upon the Son of God and who has esteemed as of ordinary value the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and who has outraged the spirit of undeserved kindness with contempt? (Hebrews 10:29)**
- **This, then, is unforgivable sin.**
- **Truly I say to you that all things will be forgiven the sons of men, no matter what sins and blasphemies they blasphemously commit. (Mark 3:28)**
- **However, whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit has no forgiveness forever, but is guilty of everlasting sin. (Mark 3:29)**
- **It would have been better for such not to have accurately known the path of righteousness than after knowing it accurately to turn away from the holy commandment delivered to them.**
- **Certainly if, after having escaped from the defilements of the world by an accurate knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they get involved again with these very things and are overcome, the final conditions have become worse for them than the first. (2 Peter 2:20)**
- **For it would have been better for them not to have accurately known the path of righteousness than after knowing it accurately to turn away from the holy commandment delivered to them. (2 Peter 2:21)**
- **The saying of the true proverb has happened to them; The dog has returned to its own vomit, and the sow that was bathed to rolling in the mire. (2 Peter 2:22)**
- **Since Adam and Eve were perfect creatures, and since God's command to them was explicit and understood by both, it is evident that their sinning was willful and was not excusable on the basis of any human weakness or imperfection. Hence, God's words to them afterward offer no invitation to repentance.**

- **To the woman he said; I shall greatly increase the pain of your pregnancy. In birth pangs you will bring forth children, and your craving will be for your husband, and he will dominate you. (Genesis 3:16)**
- **And to Adam he said; Because you listened to your wifes voice and took to eating from the tree concerning which I gave you this command, You must not eat from it, cursed is the ground on your account. In pain you will eat its produce all the days of your life. (Genesis 3:17)**
- **And thorns and thistles it will grow for you, and you must eat the vegetation of the field. (Genesis 3:18)**
- **In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return. (Genesis 3:19)**
- **After this Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she had to become the mother of everyone living. (Genesis 3:20)**
- **And Yehowah God proceeded to make long garments of skin for Adam and for his wife and to clothe them. (Genesis 3:21)**
- **And Yehowah God went on to say; Here the man has become like one of us in knowing good and bad, and now in order, that he may not put his hand out and actually take fruit also from the tree of life and eat and live to time indefinite. (Genesis 3:22)**
- **With that Yehowah God put him out of the garden of Eden to cultivate the ground from which he had been taken. (Genesis 3:23)**
- **And so he drove the man out and posted at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubs and the flaming blade of a sword that was turning itself continually to guard the way to the tree of life. (Genesis 3:24)**
- **So, too, with the spirit creature who had induced them into rebellion. His end and the end of other angelic creatures who joined him is everlasting destruction.**
- **And Yehowah God proceeded to say to the serpent; Because you**

- have done this thing, you are the cursed one out of all the domestic animals and out of all the wild beasts of the field. Upon your belly you will go and dust is what you will eat all the days of your life. (**Genesis 3:14**)
- And I shall put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He will bruise you in the head and you will bruise him in the heel. (**Genesis 3:15**)
 - Then he will say, in turn, to those on his left; Be on your way from me, you who have been cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels. (**Matthew 25:41**)
 - Judas, though imperfect, had lived in intimate association with God's own Son and yet turned traitor, Jesus himself referred to him as the son of destruction.
 - When I was with them I used to watch over them on account of your own name which you have given me, and I have kept them, and not one of them is destroyed except the son of destruction, in order, that the scripture might be fulfilled. (**John 17:12**)
 - The apostate man of lawlessness is also called the son of destruction.
 - Let no one seduce you in any manner, because it will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed, the son of destruction. (**2 Thessalonians 2:3**)
 - All those classed as figurative goats at the time of Jesus kingly judgment of mankind likewise depart into everlasting cutting-off, no invitation to **repentance** being extended to them.
 - And he will put the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on his left. (**Matthew 25:33**)
 - Then he will say, in turn, to those on his left, Be on your way from me, you who have been cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels. (**Matthew 25:41**)
 - For I became hungry, but you gave me nothing to eat, and I got thirsty, but you gave me nothing to drink. (**Matthew 25:42**)
 - I was a stranger, but you did not receive me hospitably, naked,

but you did not clothe me, sick and in prison, but you did not look after me. ([Matthew 25:43](#))

- Then they also will answer with the words; Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not minister to you? ([Matthew 25:44](#))
- Then he will answer them with the words; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of these least ones, you did not do it to me. ([Matthew 25:45](#))
- And these will depart into everlasting cutting-off, but the righteous ones into everlasting life. ([Matthew 25:46](#))

See Also ANTICHRIST

See Also APOSTASY

See Also MAN OF LAWLESSNESS

•• Resurrection Affords Opportunity

- **By contrast, the people of Sodom and Gomorrah as well as those of Canaanite Tyre and Sidon are spoken of by Jesus as finding Judgment Day more endurable than would the people of certain Jewish cities.**
- **Wherever anyone does not take you in or listen to your words, on going out of that house or that city shake the dust off your feet. ([Matthew 10:14](#))**
- **Truly I say to you, it will be more endurable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on Judgment Day than for that city. ([Matthew 10:15](#))**
- **Then he started to reproach the cities in which most of his powerful works had taken place, because they did not repent. ([Matthew 11:20](#))**
- **Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! Because if the powerful works had taken place in Tyre and Sidon that took place in you, they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes. ([Matthew 11:21](#))**
- **Consequently I say to you, it will be more endurable for Tyre and Sidon on Judgment Day than for you. ([Matthew 11:22](#))**

- **And you, Capernaum, will you perhaps be exalted to heaven? Down to Hades you will come. Because if the powerful works that took place in you had taken place in Sodom, it would have remained until this very day. (Matthew 11:23)**
- **Consequently I say to you people, It will be more endurable for the land of Sodom on Judgment Day than for you. (Matthew 11:24)**
- **Those of pagan Nineveh are similarly spoken of.**
- **Men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, because they repented at what Jonah preached, but, look! Something more than Jonah is here. (Matthew 12:41)**
- **This of itself implies that people from all such places, including the Jewish cities mentioned, will be resurrected and have opportunity to manifest humble **repentance** and turn around in conversion to God through Christ. Those failing to do so will receive everlasting destruction.**
- **And I saw a great white throne and the one seated on it. From before him the earth and the heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. (Revelation 20:11)**
- **And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. But another scroll was opened, it is the scroll of life. And the dead were judged out of those things written in the scrolls according to their deeds. (Revelation 20:12)**
- **And the sea gave up those dead in it, and death and Hades gave up those dead in them, and they were judged individually according to their deeds. (Revelation 20:13)**
- **And death and Hades were hurled into the lake of fire. This means the second death, the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:14)**
- **Furthermore, whoever was not found written in the book of life was hurled into the lake of fire. (Revelation 20:15)**

- **Those, however, who follow a course like many scribes and Pharisees, who willfully and knowingly fought the manifestation of God's spirit through Christ, will receive no resurrection, and so they cannot flee from the judgment of Gehenna.**
- **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you shut up the kingdom of the heavens before men, for you yourselves do not go in, neither do you permit those on their way in to go in. (Matthew 23:13)**
- **Serpents, offspring of vipers, how are you to flee from the judgment of Gehenna? (Matthew 23:33)**
- **Also, the scribes that came down from Jerusalem were saying; He has Beelzebub, and he expels the demons by means of the ruler of the demons. (Mark 3:22)**
- **So, after calling them to him, he began to say to them with illustrations; How can Satan expel Satan? (Mark 3:23)**
- **Why, if a kingdom becomes divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. (Mark 3:24)**
- **And if a house becomes divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. (Mark 3:25)**
- **Also, if Satan has risen up against himself and become divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. (Mark 3:26)**
- **In fact, no one that has got into the house of a strong man is able to plunder his movable goods unless first he binds the strong man, and then he will plunder his house. (Mark 3:27)**
- **Truly I say to you, that all things will be forgiven the sons of men, no matter what sins and blasphemies they blasphemously commit. (Mark 3:28)**
- **However, whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit has no forgiveness forever, but is guilty of everlasting sin. (Mark 3:29)**
- **This, because they were saying; He has an unclean spirit. (Mark 3:30)**

See Also JUDGMENT DAY

· Thief On The Stake

- **The thief on the stake who showed a measure of faith in Jesus, impaled alongside, was given the promise of being in Paradise.**
- **But one of the hung evildoers began to say abusively to him; You are the Christ, are you not? Save yourself and us. (Luke 23:39)**
- **In reply the other rebuked him and said; Do you not fear God at all, now that you are in the same judgment? (Luke 23:40)**
- **And we, indeed, justly so, for we are receiving in full what we deserve for things we did, but this man did nothing out of the way. (Luke 23:41)**
- **And he went on to say; Jesus, remember me when you get into your kingdom. (Luke 23:42)**
- **And he said to him; Truly I tell you today, you will be with me in Paradise. (Luke 23:43)**
- **While some have endeavored to read into this promise the idea that the thief was thereby guaranteed life everlasting, the evidence of the many scriptures already considered does not allow this. Though he admitted the wrongness of his criminal activity in contrast with Jesus innocence**
- **And we, indeed, justly so, for we are receiving in full what we deserve for things we did, but this man did nothing out of the way. (Luke 23:41)**
- **There is nothing to show that the thief had come to hate badness and love righteousness, in his dying state he obviously was in no position to **turn around** and produce the **works that befit repentance**, he had not been baptized.**
- **Repent, therefore, and turn around so as to get your sins blotted out, that seasons of refreshing may come from the person of Yehowah. (Acts of Apostles 3:19)**
- **But both to those in Damascus first and to those in Jerusalem, and over all the country of Judea, and to the nations I went bringing the message that they should repent and turn to God by**

doing works that befit **repentance**. (**Acts of Apostles 26:20**)

- **It therefore appears that upon his resurrection from the dead he will be given the opportunity to take this course.**
- **And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. But another scroll was opened, it is the scroll of life. And the dead were judged out of those things written in the scrolls according to their deeds. (**Revelation 20:12**)**
- **And the sea gave up those dead in it, and death and Hades gave up those dead in them, and they were judged individually according to their deeds. (**Revelation 20:13**)**

See Also PARADISE

•• How Can God, Who Is Perfect, Feel Regret

- **In the majority of cases where the Hebrew *na-cham*' is used in the sense of **feeling regret**, the reference is to Yehowah God.**
- **And Yehowah felt regrets that he had made men in the earth, and he felt hurt at his heart. (**Genesis 6:6**)**
- **So Yehowah said; I am going to wipe men whom I have created off the surface of the ground, from man to domestic animal, to moving animal and to flying creature of the heavens, because I do regret that I have made them. (**Genesis 6:7**)**
- **States that Yehowah felt **regrets** that he had made men in the earth, and he felt hurt at his heart, their wickedness being so great that God determined he would wipe them off the surface of the ground by means of the global Flood.**
- **This cannot mean that God felt regret in the sense of having made a mistake in his work of creation, for perfect is his activity.**
- **The Rock, perfect is his activity, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness, with whom there is no injustice. Righteous and upright is he. (**Deuteronomy 32:4**)**
- **They have acted ruinously on their own part, They are not his children, the defect is their own. A generation crooked and**

twisted! (**Deuteronomy 32:5**)

- **Regret is the opposite of pleasurable satisfaction and rejoicing. Hence, it must be that God regretted that after he had created mankind, their conduct became so evil that he now found himself obliged, and justly so, to destroy all mankind with the exception of Noah and his family. For God takes no delight in the death of the wicked.**
- **Say to them, As I am alive, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, I take delight, not in the death of the wicked one, but in that someone wicked turns back from his way and actually keeps living. Turn back, turn back from your bad ways, for why is it that you should die, O house of Israel? (**Ezekiel 33:11**)**
- **McClintock and Strong's Cyclopaedia comments: God himself is said to repent, *na-cham'*, feel regret, but this can only be understood of his altering his conduct towards his creatures, either in the bestowing of good or infliction of evil which change in the divine conduct is founded on a change in his creatures, and thus, speaking after the manner of men, God is said to repent. [1894, Vol. VIII, p. 1042] God's righteous standards remain constant, stable, unchanging, free from fluctuation.**
- **For I am Yehowah. I have not changed. And you are sons of Jacob; You have not come to your finish. (**Malachi 3:6**)**
- **Every good gift and every perfect present is from above, for it comes down from the Father of the celestial lights, and with him there is not a variation of the turning of the shadow. (**James 1:17**)**
- **No circumstance can cause him to change his mind about these, to turn from them, or to abandon them. However, the attitude and reactions of his intelligent creatures toward those perfect standards and toward God's application of them can be good or bad.**
- **If good, this is pleasing to God, if bad, it causes regret. Moreover, the creatures attitude can change from good to bad or bad to good, and since God does not change his standards to accommodate them, his pleasure, and accompanying blessings can accordingly change to regret, and accompanying discipline or punishment, or vice versa.**

- **His judgments and decisions, then, are totally free from caprice, fickleness, unreliability, or error, hence he is free from all erratic or eccentric conduct.**
- **Now as regards someone wicked, in case he should turn back from all his sins that he has committed and he should actually keep all my statutes and execute justice and righteousness, he will positively keep living. He will not die. (Ezekiel 18:21)**
- **All his transgressions that he has committed, they will not be remembered against him. For his righteousness that he has done he will keep living. (Ezekiel 18:22)**
- **Do I take any delight at all in the death of someone wicked, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, and not in that he should turn back from his ways and actually keep living? (Ezekiel 18:23)**
- **Now when someone righteous turns back from his righteousness and actually does injustice, according to all the detestable things that the wicked one has done he keeps doing and he is living, none of all his righteous acts that he has done will be remembered. For his unfaithfulness that he has committed and for his sin with which he has sinned, for them he will die. (Ezekiel 18:24)**
- **And you people will certainly say; The way of Yehowah is not adjusted right. Hear, please, O house of Israel. Is not my own way adjusted right? Are not the ways of you people not adjusted right? (Ezekiel 18:25)**
- **When someone righteous turns back from his righteousness and he actually does injustice and dies on account of them, for his injustice that he has done he will die. (Ezekiel 18:26)**
- **And when someone wicked turns back from his wickedness that he has committed and proceeds to execute justice and righteousness, he is the one that will preserve his own soul alive. (Ezekiel 18:27)**
- **When he sees and he turns back from all his transgressions that he has done, he will positively keep living. He will not die. (Ezekiel 18:28)**

- **And the house of Israel will certainly say; The way of Yehowah is not adjusted right. As for my ways, are they not adjusted right, O house of Israel? Are not the ways of you people the ones that are not adjusted right? (Ezekiel 18:29)**
- **Therefore each one according to his ways is how I shall judge you, O house of Israel, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. Turn back, yes, cause a turning back from all your transgressions, and let nothing prove to be for you people a stumbling block causing error. (Ezekiel 18:30)**
- **Now as regards you, O son of man, a watchman is what I have made you to the house of Israel, and at my mouth you must hear the word and give them warning from me. (Ezekiel 33:7)**
- **When I say to someone wicked, O wicked one, you will positively die! But you actually do not speak out to warn the wicked one from his way, he himself as a wicked one will die in his own error, but his blood I shall ask back at your own hand. (Ezekiel 33:8)**
- **But as regards you, in case you actually warn someone wicked from his way for him to turn back from it but he actually does not turn back from his way, he himself will die in his own error, whereas you yourself will certainly deliver your own soul. (Ezekiel 33:9)**
- **Now as regards you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus you people have said; Because our revolts and our sins are upon us and in them we are rotting away, how, then, shall we keep living? (Ezekiel 33:10)**
- **Say to them; As I am alive, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, I take delight, not in the death of the wicked one, but in that someone wicked turns back from his way and actually keeps living. Turn back, turn back from your bad ways, for why is it that you should die, O house of Israel? (Ezekiel 33:11)**
- **And as for you, O son of man, say to the sons of your people; The righteousness of the righteous one will not itself deliver him in the day of his revolt. But as regards the wickedness of the wicked one, he will not be made to stumble by it in the day of his turning back from his wickedness. Nor will even anyone having righteousness be able to keep living because of it in the day of**

his sinning. (**Ezekiel 33:12**)

- **When I say to the righteous one; You will positively keep living, and he himself actually trusts in his own righteousness and does injustice, all his own righteous acts will not be remembered, but for his injustice that he has done, for this he will die. (**Ezekiel 33:13**)**
- **And when I say to the wicked one; You will positively die, and he actually turns back from his sin and carries on justice and righteousness. (**Ezekiel 33:14**)**
- **And the wicked one returns the very thing pledged, pays back the very things taken by robbery, and actually walks in the very statutes of life by not doing injustice, he will positively keep living. He will not die. (**Ezekiel 33:15**)**
- **None of his sins with which he has sinned will be remembered against him. Justice and righteousness are what he has carried on. He will positively keep living. (**Ezekiel 33:16**)**
- **And the sons of your people have said; The way of Yehowah is not adjusted right, but, as for them, it is their way that is not adjusted right. (**Ezekiel 33:17**)**
- **When someone righteous turns back from his righteousness and actually does injustice, he must also die for them. (**Ezekiel 33:18**)**
- **And when someone wicked turns back from his wickedness and actually carries on justice and righteousness, it will be on account of them that he himself will keep living. (**Ezekiel 33:19**)**
- **And you people have said; The way of Yehowah is not adjusted right. It will be each one according to his ways that I shall judge you, O house of Israel. (**Ezekiel 33:20**)**
- **A potter may begin to make one type of vessel and then change to another style if the vessel is spoiled by the potter's hand.**
- **And I proceeded to go down to the house of the potter, and there he was doing work upon the potter's wheels. (**Jeremiah 18:3**)**
- **And the vessel that he was making with the clay was spoiled by the potters hand, and he turned back and went making it into**

another vessel, just as it looked right in the eyes of the potter to make. (**Jeremiah 18:4**)

- **By this example Yehowah illustrates, not that he is like a human potter in spoiling by his hand, but rather, that he has divine authority over mankind, authority to adjust his dealings with them according to the way they respond or fail to respond to his righteousness and mercy.**
- **Woe to the one that has contended with his Former, as an earthenware fragment with the other earthenware fragments of the ground! Should the clay say to its former; What do you make? And your achievement say; He has no hands? (**Isaiah 45:9**)**
- **You will therefore say to me; Why does he yet find fault? For who has withstood his express will? (**Romans 9:19**)**
- **O man, who, then, really are you to be answering back to God? Shall the thing molded say to him that molded it, Why did you make me this way? (**Romans 9:20**)**
- **What? Does not the potter have authority over the clay to make from the same lump one vessel for an honorable use, another for a dishonorable use? (**Romans 9:21**)**
- **He can thus feel regret over the calamity that he had thought to execute upon a nation, or feel regret over the good that he said to himself to do for its good, all depending upon the reaction of the nation to his prior dealings with it.**
- **And the word of Yehowah continued to occur to me, saying; (**Jeremiah 18:5**)**
- **Am I not able to do just like this potter to you people, O house of Israel? Is the utterance of Yehowah. Look! As the clay in the hand of the potter, so you are in my hand, O house of Israel. (**Jeremiah 18:6**)**
- **At any moment that I may speak against a nation and against a kingdom to uproot it and to pull it down and to destroy it. (**Jeremiah 18:7**)**
- **And that nation actually turns back from its badness against**

- which I spoke, I will also feel regret over the calamity that I had thought to execute upon it. (**Jeremiah 18:8**)
- But at any moment that I may speak concerning a nation and concerning a kingdom to build it up and to plant it. (**Jeremiah 18:9**)
 - And it actually does what is bad in my eyes by not obeying my voice, I will also feel regret over the good that I said to myself to do for its good. (**Jeremiah 18:10**)
 - Thus, it is not that the Great Potter, Yehowah, errs, but rather, that the human clay undergoes a metamorphosis, change of form or composition, as to its heart condition, producing regret, or a change of feeling, on Yehowah's part.
 - This is true of individuals as well as of nations, and the very fact that Yehowah God speaks of his feeling **regret** over certain of his servants, such as King Saul, who turned away from righteousness, shows that God does not predestinate the future of such individuals.
 - God's regret over Saul's deviation does not mean that God's choice of him as king had been erroneous and was to be **regretted** on that ground.
 - God must rather have felt **regret** because Saul, as a free moral agent, had not made good use of the splendid privilege and opportunity God had afforded him, and because Saul's change called for a change in God's dealings with him.
 - The word of Yehowah now came to Samuel, saying; (**1 Samuel 15:10**)
 - I do **regret** that I have caused Saul to reign as king, because he has turned back from following me, and my words he has not carried out. And it was distressing to Samuel, and he kept crying out to Yehowah all night long. (**1 Samuel 15:11**)
 - But Samuel said to Saul; I shall not return with you, for you have rejected the word of Yehowah, and Yehowah rejects you from continuing as king over Israel. (**1 Samuel 15:26**)

See Also FOREKNOWLEDGE, FOREORDINATION

- **The prophet Samuel, in declaring God's adverse decision regarding Saul, stated that the Excellency of Israel will not prove false, and He will not feel regrets, for He is not an earthling man so as to feel regrets.**
- **At this Samuel said to him; Yehowah has ripped away the royal rule of Israel from off you today, and he will certainly give it to a fellowman of yours who is better than you. (1 Samuel 15:28)**
- **And, besides, the Excellency of Israel will not prove false, and He will not feel regrets, for He is not an earthling man so as to feel regrets. (1 Samuel 15:29)**
- **Earthling men frequently prove untrue to their word, fail to make good their promises, or do not live up to the terms of their agreements, being imperfect, they commit errors in judgment, causing them regret. This is never the case with God.**
- **Yehowah has sworn to David, truly he will not draw back from it; Of the fruitage of your belly I shall set on your throne. (Psalms 132:11)**
- **By my own self I have sworn, out of my own mouth in righteousness the word has gone forth, so that it will not return, that to me every knee will bend down, every tongue will swear. (Isaiah 45:23)**
- **Saying; Surely in Yehowah there are full righteousness and strength. All those getting heated up against him will come straight to him and be ashamed. (Isaiah 45:24)**
- **For just as the pouring rain descends, and the snow, from the heavens and does not return to that place, unless it actually saturates the earth and makes it produce and sprout, and seed is actually given to the sower and bread to the eater. (Isaiah 55:10)**
- **So my word that goes forth from my mouth will prove to be. It will not return to me without results, but it will certainly do that in which I have delighted, and it will have certain success in that for which I have sent it. (Isaiah 55:11)**
- **God's covenant made between God and all flesh after the Flood, for example, unconditionally guaranteed that God would never again bring a flood of waters over all the earth.**

- **And God went on to say to Noah and to his sons with him: (Genesis 9:8)**
- **And as for me, here I am establishing my covenant with you men and with your offspring after you. (Genesis 9:9)**
- **And with every living soul that is with you, among fowls, among beasts and among all living creatures of the earth with you, from all those going out of the ark to every living creature of the earth. (Genesis 9:10)**
- **Yes, I do establish my covenant with you. No more will all flesh be cut off by waters of a deluge, and no more will there occur a deluge to bring the earth to ruin. (Genesis 9:11)**
- **And God added; This is the sign of the covenant that I am giving between me and you and every living soul that is with you, for the generations to time indefinite. (Genesis 9:12)**
- **My rainbow I do give in the cloud, and it must serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. (Genesis 9:13)**
- **And it shall occur that when I bring a cloud over the earth, then the rainbow will certainly appear in the cloud. (Genesis 9:14)**
- **And I shall certainly remember my covenant which is between me and you and every living soul among all flesh, and no more will the waters become a deluge to bring all flesh to ruin. (Genesis 9:15)**
- **And the rainbow must occur in the cloud, and I shall certainly see it to remember the covenant to time indefinite between God and every living soul among all flesh that is upon the earth. (Genesis 9:16)**
- **And God repeated to Noah; This is the sign of the covenant that I do establish between me and all flesh that is upon the earth. (Genesis 9:17)**
- **There is, then, no possibility of God's changing with regard to that covenant or **regretting** it. Similarly, in his covenant with Abraham, God stepped in with an oath as a legal guarantee so as to demonstrate more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of**

his counsel, his promise and his oath being two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie.

- **For when God made his promise to Abraham, since he could not swear by anyone greater, he swore by himself. (Hebrews 6:13)**
- **Saying; Assuredly in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply you. (Hebrews 6:14)**
- **And thus after Abraham had shown patience, he obtained this promise. (Hebrews 6:15)**
- **For men swear by the one greater, and their oath is the end of every dispute, as it is a legal guarantee to them. (Hebrews 6:16)**
- **In this manner God, when he purposed to demonstrate more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of his counsel, stepped in with an oath. (Hebrews 6:17)**
- **In order, that, through two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to the refuge may have strong encouragement to lay hold on the hope set before us. (Hebrews 6:18)**
- **God's sworn covenant with his Son for a priesthood like that of Melchizedek was likewise something over which God would feel no regret.**
- **Also, to the extent that it was not without a sworn oath. (Hebrews 7:20)**
- **For there are indeed men that have become priests without a sworn oath, but there is one with an oath sworn by the One who said respecting him; Yehowah has sworn, and he will feel no regret; You are a priest forever. (Hebrews 7:21)**
- **Yehowah has sworn, and he will feel no regret; You are a priest to time indefinite according to the manner of Melchizedek! (Psalms 110:4)**
- **For the gifts and the calling of God are not things he will regret. (Romans 11:29)**

- **However, in stating a promise or making a covenant, God may set out requirements, conditions to be met by those with whom the promise or covenant is made.**
- **He promised Israel that they would become his special property and a kingdom of priests and a holy nation, if they would strictly obey his voice and keep his covenant.**
- **And now if you will strictly obey my voice and will indeed keep my covenant, then you will certainly become my special property out of all other peoples, because the whole earth belongs to me. (Exodus 19:5)**
- **And you yourselves will become to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you are to say to the sons of Israel. (Exodus 19:6)**
- **God held true to his side of the covenant, but Israel failed, they violated that covenant time and again.**
- **For I am Yehowah. I have not changed. And you are sons of Jacob. You have not come to your finish. (Malachi 3:6)**
- **From the days of your forefathers you have turned aside from my regulations and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, Yehowah of armies has said. And you have said; In what way shall we return? (Malachi 3:7)**
- **And they themselves, even our forefathers, acted presumptuously and proceeded to harden their neck, and they did not listen to your commandments. (Nehemiah 9:16)**
- **So they refused to listen, and they did not remember your wonderful acts that you performed with them, but they hardened their neck and appointed a head to return to their servitude in Egypt. But you are a God of acts of forgiveness, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness, and you did not leave them. (Nehemiah 9:17)**
- **Yes, when they had made for themselves a molten statue of a calf and began to say; This is your God who led you up out of Egypt, and they went on to commit great acts of disrespect. (Nehemiah 9:18)**

- **You, even you, in your abundant mercy did not leave them in the wilderness. The pillar of cloud itself did not depart from over them by day to lead them in the way, nor the pillar of fire by night to light up for them the way in which they should go. (Nehemiah 9:19)**
- **However, they became disobedient and rebelled against you and kept casting your Law behind their back, and your own prophets they killed, who bore witness against them to bring them back to you, and they went on committing acts of great disrespect. (Nehemiah 9:26)**
- **For this you gave them into the hand of their adversaries, who kept causing them distress, but in the time of their distress they would cry out to you, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens, and in accord with your abundant mercy you would give them saviors who would save them out of the hand of their adversaries. (Nehemiah 9:27)**
- **But as soon as they were at rest, they would again do what is bad before you, and you would leave them to the hand of their enemies, who would tread them down. Then they would return and call to you for aid, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens and deliver them in accord with your abundant mercy, time and again. (Nehemiah 9:28)**
- **Although you would bear witness against them to bring them back to your law, they themselves even acted presumptuously and did not listen to your commandments, and against your own judicial decisions they sinned, which, if a man will do, he must also live by means of them. And they kept giving a stubborn shoulder, and their neck they hardened, and they did not listen. (Nehemiah 9:29)**
- **But you were indulgent with them for many years and kept bearing witness against them by your spirit by means of your prophets, and they did not give ear. Finally you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. (Nehemiah 9:30)**
- **And in your abundant mercy you did not make an extermination of them or leave them, for you are a God gracious and merciful. (Nehemiah 9:31)**

- **So, when God finally annulled that covenant he did so with complete justice, the responsibility for the nonfulfillment of his promise resting entirely with the offending Israelites.**
- **This is why I say to you; The kingdom of God will be taken from you and be given to a nation producing its fruits. ([Matthew 21:43](#))**
- **For if that first covenant had been faultless, no place would have been sought for a second. ([Hebrews 8:7](#))**
- **For he does find fault with the people when he says; Look! There are days coming, says Yehowah, and I will conclude with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah a New Covenant. ([Hebrews 8:8](#))**
- **Not according to the covenant that I made with their forefathers in the day of my taking hold of their hand to bring them forth out of the land of Egypt, because they did not continue in my covenant, so that I stopped caring for them, says Yehowah. ([Hebrews 8:9](#))**
- **In the same way God can **feel regret** and **turn back** from carrying out some punishment when his warning of such action produces a change in attitude and conduct on the part of the offenders.**
- **And nothing at all should stick to your hand of the thing made sacred by ban, in order, that Yehowah may turn from his burning anger and may indeed give you mercy and he may certainly show you mercy and multiply you, just as he has sworn to your forefathers. ([Deuteronomy 13:17](#))**
- **Do return, O Yehowah! How long will it be? And feel regret over your servants. ([Psalms 90:13](#))**
- **They have returned to him and he returns to them.**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; I will return to Zion and reside in the midst of Jerusalem, and Jerusalem will certainly be called the city of trueness, and the mountain of Yehowah of armies, the holy mountain. ([Zechariah 8:3](#))**
- **From the days of your forefathers you have turned aside from my regulations and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will**

return to you, Yehowah of armies has said. And you have said, In what way shall we return? (**Malachi 3:7**)

- **Instead of being pained, he now rejoices, for he finds no delight in bringing death to sinners.**
- **Thus, I tell you, joy arises among the angels of God over one sinner that repents. (**Luke 15:10**)**
- **For I do not take any delight in the death of someone dying, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. So cause a turning back and keep living, O you people. (**Ezekiel 18:32**)**
- **While never shifting away from his righteous standards, God extends help so that persons can return to him, they are encouraged to do so. He kindly invites them to return, spreading out his hands and saying by means of his representatives; Turn back, please, that I may not cause calamity to you. Do not do, please, this detestable sort of thing that I have hated.**
- **I have let myself be searched for by those who had not asked for me. I have let myself be found by those who had not looked for me. I have said; Here I am, here I am! To a nation that was not calling upon my name. (**Isaiah 65:1**)**
- **I have spread out my hands all day long to a stubborn people, those who are walking in the way that is not good, after their thoughts. (**Isaiah 65:2**)**
- **They saying; Turn back, please, every one from his bad way and from the badness of your dealings, and continue dwelling upon the ground that Yehowah gave to you and to your forefathers from long ago and to a long time to come. (**Jeremiah 25:5**)**
- **And do not walk after other gods in order to serve them and to bow down to them, that you may not offend me with the work of your hands, and that I may not cause calamity to you. (**Jeremiah 25:6**)**
- **And I kept sending to you all my servants the prophets, rising up early and sending, saying; Do not do, please, this detestable sort of thing that I have hated. (**Jeremiah 44:4**)**
- **But they did not listen, nor did they incline their ear to turn back**

from their badness by not making sacrificial smoke to other gods. **(Jeremiah 44:5)**

- **He gives ample time for change.**
- **But you were indulgent with them for many years and kept bearing witness against them by your spirit by means of your prophets, and they did not give ear. Finally you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. **(Nehemiah 9:30)****
- **Nevertheless, I do hold this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and misleads my slaves to commit fornication and to eat things sacrificed to idols. **(Revelation 2:20)****
- **And I gave her time to repent, but she is not willing to repent of her fornication. **(Revelation 2:21)****
- **Look! I am about to throw her into a sickbed, and those committing adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. **(Revelation 2:22)****
- **And her children I will kill with deadly plague, so that all the congregations will know that I am he who searches the kidneys and hearts, and I will give to you individually according to your deeds. **(Revelation 2:23)****
- **And shows great patience and forbearance, since he does not desire any to be destroyed but desires all to attain to **repentance**.**
- **However, let this one fact not be escaping your notice, beloved ones, that one day is with Yehowah as a thousand years and a thousand years as one day. **(2 Peter 3:8)****
- **Yehowah is not slow respecting his promise, as some people consider slowness, but he is patient with you because he does not desire any to be destroyed but desires all to attain to **repentance**. **(2 Peter 3:9)****
- **Or do you despise the riches of his kindness and forbearance and long-suffering, because you do not know that the kindly quality of God is trying to lead you to **repentance**? **(Romans 2:4)****
- **But according to your hardness and unrepentant heart you are**

storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath and of the revealing of God's righteous judgment. (**Romans 2:5**)

- **On occasion he kindly saw to it that his message was accompanied by powerful works, or miracles, that established the divine commission of his messengers and helped strengthen faith in those hearing.**
- **Now as Peter was going through all parts he came down also to the holy ones that dwelt in Lydda. (**Acts of Apostles 9:32**)**
- **There he found a certain man named Aeneas, who had been lying flat on his cot for eight years, as he was paralyzed. (**Acts of Apostles 9:33**)**
- **And Peter said to him; Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you. Rise and make up your bed. And he rose immediately. (**Acts of Apostles 9:34**)**
- **And all those who inhabited Lydda and the plain of Sharon saw him, and these turned to the Lord. (**Acts of Apostles 9:35**)**
- **When his message receives no response, he employs discipline, he withdraws his favor and protection, thereby allowing the unrepentant ones to undergo privations, famine, suffering of oppression from their enemies.**
- **This may bring them to their senses, may restore their proper fear of God, or may cause them to realize that their course was stupid and that their set of values was wrong.**
- **And Yehowah kept speaking to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. (**2 Chronicles 33:10**)**
- **Finally Yehowah brought against them the chiefs of the army that belonged to the king of Assyria, and so they captured Manasseh in the hollows and bound him with two fetters of copper and took him to Babylon. (**2 Chronicles 33:11**)**
- **And as soon as it caused him distress, he softened the face of Yehowah his God and kept humbling himself greatly because of the God of his forefathers. (**2 Chronicles 33:12**)**
- **And he kept praying to Him, so that He let himself be entreated**

by him and He heard his request for favor and restored him to Jerusalem to his kingship, and Manasseh came to know that Yehowah is the true God. (**2 Chronicles 33:13**)

- But as soon as they were at rest, they would again do what is bad before you, and you would leave them to the hand of their enemies, who would tread them down. Then they would return and call to you for aid, and you yourself would hear from the very heavens and deliver them in accord with your abundant mercy, time and again. (**Nehemiah 9:28**)
- Although you would bear witness against them to bring them back to your law, they themselves even acted presumptuously and did not listen to your commandments, and against your own judicial decisions they sinned, which, if a man will do, he must also live by means of them. And they kept giving a stubborn shoulder, and their neck they hardened, and they did not listen. (**Nehemiah 9:29**)
- And I also, for my part, gave you people cleanness of teeth in all your cities and want of bread in all your places, but you did not come back to me, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Amos 4:6**)
- And as for me, I also withheld from you people the downpour when there were yet three months to the harvest, and I made it rain on one city, but on another city I would not make it rain. There was one tract of land that would be rained on, but a tract of land on which I would not make it rain would be dried up. (**Amos 4:7**)
- And two or three cities staggered to one city in order to drink water, and they would not get satisfied, but you did not come back to me, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Amos 4:8**)
- I struck you people with scorching and mildew. There was a multiplying of your gardens and of your vineyards, but your fig trees and your olive trees the caterpillar would devour, yet you did not come back to me, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Amos 4:9**)
- I sent among you people a pestilence in the nature of that of Egypt. With the sword I killed your young men, along with the taking captive of your horses. And I kept making the stink of your camps ascend even into your nostrils, but you did not come

back to me, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Amos 4:10**)

- I caused an overthrow among you people, like God's overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah. And you came to be like a log snatched out of the burning, but you did not come back to me, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Amos 4:11**)
- However, his patience has its limits, and when these are reached he gets **tired of feeling regret**, then his decision to render punishment is unchangeable.
- You yourself have deserted me, is the utterance of Yehowah. Backwards is the way you keep walking. And I shall stretch out my hand against you and bring you to ruin. I have **got tired of feeling regret**. (**Jeremiah 15:6**)
- And I shall winnow them with a fork in the gates of the land. I shall certainly bereave them of children. I will destroy my people, since they have not turned back from their own ways. (**Jeremiah 15:7**)
- Look! The windstorm of Yehowah, rage itself, will certainly go forth, even a whirling tempest. Upon the head of the wicked ones it will whirl itself. (**Jeremiah 23:19**)
- The anger of Yehowah will not turn back until he will have carried out and until he will have made the ideas of his heart come true. In the final part of the days you people will give your consideration to it with understanding. (**Jeremiah 23:20**)
- However, if you will not listen to me nor do all these commandments. (**Leviticus 26:14**)
- And if you will reject my statutes, and if your souls will abhor my judicial decisions so as not to do all my commandments, to the extent of your violating my covenant. (**Leviticus 26:15**)
- Then I, for my part, shall do the following to you, and in punishment I shall certainly bring upon you disturbance with tuberculosis and burning fever, causing the eyes to fail and making the soul pine away. And you will simply sow your seed for nothing, as your enemies will certainly eat it up. (**Leviticus 26:16**)

- **And I shall indeed set my face against you, and you will certainly be defeated before your enemies, and those who hate you will just tread down upon you, and you will actually flee when no one is pursuing you. (Leviticus 26:17)**
- **If, though, despite these things, you will not listen to me, I shall then have to chastise you seven times as much for your sins. (Leviticus 26:18)**
- **And I shall have to break the pride of your strength and make your heavens like iron and your earth like copper. (Leviticus 26:19)**
- **And your power will simply be expended for nothing, as your earth will not give its yield, and the tree of the earth will not give its fruit. (Leviticus 26:20)**
- **But if you keep walking in opposition to me and not wishing to listen to me, I shall then have to inflict seven times more blows upon you according to your sins. (Leviticus 26:21)**
- **And I will send the wild beasts of the field among you, and they will certainly bereave you of children and cut off your domestic animals and reduce the number of you, and your roads will actually be desolated. (Leviticus 26:22)**
- **Nevertheless, if with these things you do not let yourselves be corrected by me and you just have to walk in opposition to me. (Leviticus 26:23)**
- **I, yes, I, shall then have to walk in opposition to you, and I, even I, shall have to strike you seven times for your sins. (Leviticus 26:24)**
- **And I shall certainly bring upon you a sword wreaking vengeance for the covenant, and you will indeed gather yourselves into your cities, and I shall certainly send pestilence into the midst of you, and you must be given into the hand of an enemy. (Leviticus 26:25)**
- **When I have broken for you the rods around which ring-shaped loaves are suspended, ten women will then actually bake your bread in but one oven and give back your bread by weight, and you must eat but you will not be satisfied. (Leviticus 26:26)**

- **If, however, with this you will not listen to me and you just must walk in opposition to me. (Leviticus 26:27)**
- **I shall then have to walk in heated opposition to you, and I, yes, I, shall have to chastise you seven times for your sins. (Leviticus 26:28)**
- **So you will have to eat the flesh of your sons, and you will eat the flesh of your daughters. (Leviticus 26:29)**
- **And I shall certainly annihilate your sacred high places and cut off your incense stands and lay your own carcasses upon the carcasses of your dungy idols, and my soul will simply abhor you. (Leviticus 26:30)**
- **And I shall indeed give your cities to the sword and lay your sanctuaries desolate, and I shall not smell your restful odors. (Leviticus 26:31)**
- **And I, for my part, will lay the land desolate, and your enemies who are dwelling in it will simply stare in amazement over it. (Leviticus 26:32)**
- **And you I shall scatter among the nations, and I will unsheathe a sword after you, and your land must become a desolation, and your cities will become a desolate ruin. (Leviticus 26:33)**
- **He is no longer merely thinking or forming against such ones a calamity.**
- **And now say; please, to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, This is what Yehowah has said; Here I am forming against you a calamity and thinking against you a thought. Turn back, please, each one from his bad way, and make your ways and your dealings good. (Jeremiah 18:11)**
- **Perhaps they will listen and return, each one from his bad way, and I shall have to feel regret for the calamity that I am thinking to execute upon them because of the badness of their dealings. (Jeremiah 26:3)**
- **And you must say to them; This is what Yehowah has said; If you will not listen to me by walking in my Law that I have put**

before you. (**Jeremiah 26:4**)

- **By listening to the words of my servants the prophets, whom I am sending to you, even rising up early and sending them, whom you have not listened to. (**Jeremiah 26:5**)**
- **I will, in turn, make this house like that in Shiloh, and this city I shall make a malediction to all the nations of the earth. (**Jeremiah 26:6**)**
- **But has reached an irreversible decision.**
- **And also the spirit mediums and the professional foretellers of events and the teraphim and the dungy idols and all the disgusting things that had appeared in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem Josiah cleared out, in order, that he might actually carry out the words of the Law that were written in the book that Hilkiyah the priest had found at the house of Yehowah. (**2 Kings 23:24**)**
- **And like him there did not prove to be a king prior to him who returned to Yehowah with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his vital force, according to all the Law of Moses, neither after him has there risen up one like him. (**2 Kings 23:25**)**
- **Nevertheless, Yehowah did not turn back from the great burning of his anger, with which his anger burned against Judah over all the offensive things with which Manasseh had made them offend. (**2 Kings 23:26**)**
- **But Yehowah said; Judah, too, I shall remove from my sight, just as I have removed Israel, and I shall certainly reject this city that I have chosen, even Jerusalem, and the house of which I have said; My name will continue there. (**2 Kings 23:27**)**
- **Also, all the time I am the same One, and there is no one effecting deliverance out of my own hand. I shall get active, and who can turn it back? (**Isaiah 43:13**)**
- **On this account the land will mourn, and the heavens above will certainly become dark. It is because I have spoken, I have considered, and I have not felt regret, nor shall I turn back from it. (**Jeremiah 4:28**)**

- Therefore keep yourselves in expectation of me, is the utterance of Yehowah, till the day of my rising up to the booty, for my judicial decision is to gather nations, for me to collect together kingdoms, in order to pour out upon them my denunciation, all my burning anger, for by the fire of my zeal all the earth will be devoured. (**Zephaniah 3:8**)
- Saying; We thank you, Yehowah God, the Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and begun ruling as king. (**Revelation 11:17**)
- But the nations became wrathful, and your own wrath came, and the appointed time for the dead to be judged, and to give their reward to your slaves the prophets and to the holy ones and to those fearing your name, the small and the great, and to bring to ruin those ruining the earth. (**Revelation 11:18**)
- **God's willingness to forgive repentant ones, as well as his mercifully opening the way to such forgiveness even in the face of repeated offenses, sets the example for all of his servants.**
- Then Peter came up and said to him; Lord, how many times is my brother to sin against me and am I to forgive him? Up to seven times? (**Matthew 18:21**)
- Jesus said to him; I say to you; Not up to seven times, but up to seventy-seven times. (**Matthew 18:22**)
- Truly I say to you, that all things will be forgiven the sons of men, no matter what sins and blasphemies they blasphemously commit. (**Mark 3:28**)
- Pay attention to yourselves. If your brother commits a sin give him a rebuke, and if he repents forgive him. (**Luke 17:3**)
- Even if he sins seven times a day against you and he comes back to you seven times, saying; I repent, you must forgive him. (**Luke 17:4**)
- If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous so as to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (**1 John 1:9**)

See Also FORGIVENESS

