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## [BIBLICAL REPENTANCE SIMPLIFIED]

A biblical study of the basis for repentance as a requirement for salvation

# BIBLICAL REPENTANCE STUDY

## SIMPLIFIED by Bro. Rollie L. Aglosolos

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### *Introduction:*

HELLO & WELCOME! First and foremost, I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me to be a little tool, performing this task to the best of my limited knowledge, yet confidently led, empowered, and guided by the Holy Spirit of promise; according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God – 1 Timothy 1:11 &12, ( KJB 1611 ).

The apostle Paul's admonition to young Timothy: Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth – 2 Timothy 2:7, 2 &15.

- a. There are some verses (claimed by some) in the bible that suggest or support that repentance is no longer necessary or applicable before or during time of salvation in this time of grace or under this dispensation of the gospel of grace program of God ; that is, the gospel redemptive program, after the cross. Some of their familiar-favorite verses (even so displayed to me personally a couple of times during discussions), are:
  - \* Hebrews 10:14 - For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.
  - \* Ephesians 2:8 - For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.
  - \* Romans 5:1 - Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
 ( Why these verses do not suggest that repentance is not anymore required will be explained in upcoming pages)
- b. Question: Do we really think the Holy Scriptures block it? Truth of the matter is: no verse in the Bible straightforwardly rejects, demolishes, dissolves, discredits, disqualifies, repeals, nor prohibits repentance.
- c. Repentance / Repent: appears 106 times in the bible. In the New Testament alone, we find them in the 4 Gospels, the book of Acts, and other Epistles.
- d. The Book of Acts or Acts of the Apostles is a very important book to consider, although its indeed historical and transitional in nature; because its purpose, aspects, message and narratives are informative, descriptive and indicative, intended relatively for a "shift" or what we call "transitional approach"; a sequel: a follow-up ahead information.  
 Let's take for example: Acts 9:15-16 - But the Lord said unto him (Ananias), Go thy way: for he (Saul, later Paul) is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings,

and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

e. There are about 15 key words in the vocabulary of salvation ( soteriology ) in the Bible:

- |                   |                  |                    |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Conversion     | 6. Redemption    | 11. Justification  |
| 2. Substitution   | 7. Regeneration  | 12. Sanctification |
| 3. Reconciliation | 8. Imputation    | 13. Glorification  |
| 4. Propitiation   | 9. Adoption      | 14. Preservation   |
| 5. Remission      | 10. Supplication | 15. Origination    |

f. CONVERSION: The Greek word translated “conversion”, has reference to a twofold turning on the part of an individual:

\* One has to do with REPENTANCE: “Turn from” (The Opener);

\* Another has to do with FAITH : “Turn to” (The Finisher)

Both is not the will of man or of the flesh but the will of God; (Physical vs. Spiritual).

\*John 3:6 - That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

\*John 6:63 - It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

\*James 4:6b - God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

\*Psalms 18:27 - For thou wilt save the afflicted people; but wilt bring down the high looks.

A. *REPENTANCE*: (Greek word: “metanoia”):

#### *What Repentance is not:*

1. It is not reformation; the act of turning over a leaf; symbolical example: (a flying dove with a picked leaf).
2. It is not remorse; that act of regretting the fruit of one’s crime, but not the root. (having sense but no ambition, desire, intention, to turn from or give up a 100%):  
\*ESAU: Hebrews 12:16-17; (background story: Genesis chapter 27)  
\*JUDAS: Matthew 27:3-5
3. It is not penitence; that act of attempting to make up for one’s sins through good works.
4. It is not worldly sorrow; (it worketh death); 2 Corinthians 7:10

#### *What is Repentance?*

1. It is a voluntary and sincere change in the mind of a sinner, causing to “turn from” his sin; as of Romans chapter 6: (continue in sin; dead to sin; body of sin; freed from sin; died unto sin; dead indeed unto sin; Let not sin; For sin; shall we sin; servants of sin; free from sin; the wages of sin is death).

It must be noted here that “SIN” is (singular), not “SINS”!

Psalms 51:5 - Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin (singular) did my mother conceive me.

2 Corinthians 5:21 - For he hath made him to be sin (singular) for us, who knew no sin (singular), that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

2. True and genuine-biblical repentance involves: the “TURNING FROM” one specific sin (singular); that sin that started from our First Adam in that first garden, (the “One man” sin). Romans 5:12 - Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin (singular) entered into the world and death by sin (singular), so that death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. The first terrible result of sin upon Adam and Eve was the realization of their shame and nakedness before God – (Genesis 3:7). But next, moments later, the LORD God clothed them with coats of skin (depicting a shed blood), -(Genesis 3:21). This is the introduction of first human error intervention, versus, Divine grace intervention, that has something to do with Repentance and Faith. ( Find more on coming pages)
3. It is a fundamental change of mind, desire, intent, ambition, and direction regarding one’s sinful condition; including deliverance from sin’s eternal penalty and enslaving power.
4. It is God’s original divine standard (governing rule), based upon His holiness, righteousness, qualities, attributes, promises, words, love, etc. Isaiah 51:6b - ...but my salvation shall be forever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished. Malachi 3:6a - For I am the LORD, I change not; James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Isaiah 42:8 - I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. (Holiness and wickedness can’t go together and God’s justice and holiness requires sin to be punished because a sinner is under the bondage and curse of sin. This is one big reason why people don’t want to come to the Light because their (darkness) can be exposed; but let’s be aware: for this is the first step!) NOTE: God’s intentions and dealings with man may change, according to some circumstances brought about by the infidelity of man, but never His attributes (already mentioned). One good example: Genesis 6:5-7 - And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil. And it repented (dissatisfied; ceased to reflect His glory) the LORD that he has made man in the earth and it grieved him at his heart. And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.
5. It is a vow, a pledge, a prayer, a commitment from our inward-invisible mind, will, and emotion; dictated by the Invisible Holy Spirit of God, whereby we are sealed unto the day of redemption- (Ephesians 4:30; Romans 8:16). If we say “invisible mind, will, and emotion”, common sense already corrects us that repentance is not our work or “a work” (insist by some), for we know we can’t touch and see the invisibles. Only the Holy Spirit can do that!
6. It is not a break-a-way or a hidden agenda, pronounced and declared by Jesus Christ Himself as His living word, attached in His name – (Luke 24:47; Acts 4:12; 9:15 &16; Philippians 2:9 &10).
7. It is a sinner’s “Prelude”, saying “sorry” or become sorrowful with a “godly sorrow” – Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10).

B. *REPENTANCE AND FAITH:* (“Turn from” & “Turn to”), are:

1. Vehicles: (as launching pad and space shuttle)
2. Accompanying party: (partners / twins); (in electricity, the negative and positive; or the power of the gospel of Christ – Romans 1:16)
3. A package of God's grace: known as the gospel of God /gospel of Christ / gospel of grace:
 

Important to consider: (The 3 groups of people): Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the Church of God- 1 Corinthians 10:32; Acts 20:21a & 28b.

\*Gospel of the kingdom = for the Jews or house of Israel; (gospel before the cross; gospel before His death, burial, resurrection and ascension; gospel under the law; the old testament).

\*Everlasting gospel = for the Gentiles; (gospel after this dispensation of grace or "Church Age")

\*Gospel of Grace = for the Church (gospel under this period or of Grace; both Jews and Gentile);  
= also known as the Glorious gospel – (1 Timothy 1:11; 2 Corinthians 4:4)

  - a. 2 Corinthians 8:9 - For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.
  - b. Titus 2:11 - For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.
  - c. Acts 20:24 - But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

*c. REPENTANCE (In more Bible references):*

1. 1 Thessalonians 1:9 - For they themselves show of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.
2. Acts 26:18 - (The Opener): To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.  
Hebrews 12:2 - (The Finisher): (Learn more on this later...)
3. Matthew 3:2-3; (Isaiah 40:3): ...Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.  
\*Kingdom of heaven = Physical  
\*Kingdom of God = Spiritual (John 3:3-6; 1 Corinthians 2:14)  
For this is he that was spoken by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. (This is in relation to His Father's business – Luke 2:49).  
Note: This preparation of the way of the Lord announced and preached by John the Baptist, even "crying" (could you imagine what a voice, emphasis, force, and effort done?), covers and connects us all throughout the whole redemptive program of Christ or "His Paths" (plural), after the cross, better known as the gospel of Grace or the gospel of Salvation. This of course, was revealed by the risen and ascended Lord of glory, himself, and finally received, declared, and preached by the Apostle Paul, because this was committed to his trust - 1 Timothy 1:11.
4. Romans 2:4 - Or despiseth thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?
5. 2 Corinthians 7:10-11 - For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of; but the sorrow of the world worketh death. For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourself, yea, what

indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all these things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter.

- a. Repentance to salvation is not only “godly sorrow” but also “approving” and “clearing” of ourselves.
- b. God wants us to see how true, sincere, serious, and honest we are about seeking Him. In contrast, Satan’s greatest weapon is ignorance of God’s word – Matthew 22:29. He is a thief that cometh to steal, and to kill, and to destroy – John 10:10; as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour – 1 Peter 5:8b.

2 Corinthians 4:4 - In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believed not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Acts 17:29-30 - Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man’s device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at (past); but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent (present): Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained (future); whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

- c. “not to be repented of”: means, not to be regretted; not to disqualify; not to be sorry; not to think differently, etc.

6. Acts 17:30 -34 -

- a. Repentance is commanded by God
- b. It is for all men everywhere
- c. Its range or coverage is past, present and future or until judgment day
- d. Repentance comes before one believed:

Mark 1:15 - Repent and believe

Acts 13:38 - Forgiveness and Faith

Acts 20:21 - Repentance and Faith

Acts 28:18 - Repentance and Faith; “turn from” and “turn to”

2 Timothy 2:25 - Repentance to the acknowledging of the truth

7. Luke 24:47 - And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name, among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

- a. Repentance and remission of sins is attached, connected, or joined together in His name when we teach, testify, or preach the gospel of Christ presented after the cross –(Acts 9:15 &16); for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jews first, and also to the Greeks - (Romans 1:16). (always remember the plural noun “paths”)
- b. Matthew 19:6 - What (anything... not only in marriage) therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder.
- c. 1 Corinthians 1:10 - Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no division among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

8. Mark 1:1 - The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God: (This gospel message before the cross is “The gospel of the kingdom”).

Mark 1:3b - ...Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths (plural) straight.

Mark 1:15 - And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

a. "His paths", (plural): Does not exclude His way after the cross; His calling and command for sinners to repent (Luke 5:32; 24:47); His death, burial, and resurrection, and even His ascension and return (that's why a saved person must believe in the rapture; This is "ascension"!)

b. "Straight": means not missing any count, eliminate, detour, or wandering within "His Paths"  
 "Straight": means a crooked ways can't make a straight paths.

"Straight" & "Paths" means:

\*Matthew 7:24-27 - "founded upon a rock"; this Rock is Jesus – 1 Corinthians 10:4

\*Matthew 16:18 - "... and upon this rock, I will build my church..."

\*Luke 9:62 - No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God (Spiritual not Physical).

\*John 14:6 - I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

\*1 Corinthians 3:11 - For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

9. Acts 20:21 - Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

a. "Toward" mentioned 2 times in separate manner

b. Repentance toward God: is our response, addressed or directed to God the Father

c. Faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ: is our response, addressed or directed to God the Son

d. This is that we are to teach, testify, and preach to all people everywhere

(See more on Addendum no.3)

10. Acts 26:18 & 20 - (Opener/Vehicle):

a. To open their eyes, and

b. To turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God,

c. That they may receive forgiveness of sins (now, plural; after repentance and faith), and inheritance among them which are sanctified (set apart) by faith that is in me.

d. ...that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

Note: Let's put into consideration that after repentance and faith, comes the works needed for repentance. Therefore, clearly, repentance before salvation (believed by some) is no man's work at all, but purely a "Gift", because repentance under this dispensation of grace is always Grace – Romans 11:6. Before we get mercy, there must be Repentance; before we get saved, there must be Faith; and before we get to work out (show forth) our fruits, there must be salvation already. That's how constructive it is, biblically!

11. 2 Timothy 2:25-26 - (Opener/Vehicle):

a. In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

b. And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

## 12. 1 Thessalonians 1:9 - (Opener/Vehicle):

- a. For they themselves show of us what manner of entering in we had unto you,
- b. And how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.

NOTE: “Believe” and “Faith” is found in verses 7 & 8, just before verse 9, successively. No doubt, therefore, “Believe” becomes a one-inclusive word for repentance and faith; a theological counterparts, closely linked to soteriology (doctrine of Salvation) context, that when one is mentioned, the other is assumed. (Handful of Bible references already been unfolded, and there’s more) By the way, devils also believe and tremble – James 2:19.

D. FAITH (*In more Bible references*):

1. Romans 5:2 - By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
2. Ephesians 2:8 - For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
3. 2 Timothy 3:15 - And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
4. Hebrews 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
5. Hebrews 12:2 - Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.
  - a. Author: “The Alpha”, the beginning, the first – Revelation 1:8; 22:13;  
 Hebrews 5:9 - Author of eternal salvation  
 Genesis 1:1; John 1:1 - The Creator (the beginning)  
 Colossians 1:18 - The Firstborn from the dead (Christ Resurrection)
  - b. Finisher: “The Omega”, the ending, the last – Revelation 1:8; 22:13  
 Finisher: From the Truine God, Jesus Christ, God the Son came down to earth, manifested in the flesh, took upon him the form of a servant, became obedient unto death on the cross, to finish the work of redemption for mankind- Philippians 2:5-8.  
 Finisher: Jesus Christ was the 2<sup>nd</sup> or the last Adam (the Obedient), substituting the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam (the Disobedient): or Adam, the starter; Jesus Christ, the last (Romans 5:15; 1 Corinthians 15:45), who finished the work of redemption because man’s efforts or works, aside from His work alone, can not work –Ephesians 2:8 & 9.  
 Sinners = “dead in trespasses and sins”, and  
 In Christ Jesus = we’re “made alive” (hath quickened us), and (raised us up) – Ephesians 2:1 & 5.  
 Finisher: Repentance toward God= Toward God the Father – (HE CALLS)  
 Response (after conviction)= Toward God the Holy Spirit – (HE ENABLES)  
 Faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ= Toward God the Son – (He finished and secured redemption’s plan; HE SAVES)

Simple Illustration: (based in 1 Corinthians 9:24; Philippians 3:14: Know ye not that they which run a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus):

A 1,200 marathon relay, has 3 players on each team. The last player becomes "The finisher". All 3 participated, and therefore all are partners. Without the first two, there can be no finisher; or if one tries to make a finish without the other 2, surely, a big "boo" would noise the whole crowd, for it's a big mistake and a crazy thing, indeed!

NOTE: If Jesus Christ is the Author and Finisher of our faith, He did not make it so easy or made "shortcut" on His way to the cross! (I would come to understand every now and then what it meant, when I hear people using the word "Easy-Believism"; and it's easier for me to understand Matthew 7:13-14, when Jesus used the lines "and few there be that find it"). He volunteered and suffered so much for us all, and tasted death for every man (not just an ordinary, decent, or accidental death – Hebrews 2:9; 2 Corinthians 8:9). Doesn't this matter to us? Are we not convicted at all, even just for a second? Can't we just cry out for a moment saying honestly, sincerely, and heartily, a goldly sorrow: "I am sorry", "I need Repentance"? Can we not feel even just a little tug of despair? Have we already forgotten the cross that He bore for us? The thorns He wore, His precious blood that stained the sand, the nails that pierced His hands and feet, the mocking jeering band, His deep agony, how He left His glorious throne in Heaven He enjoyed, despising the shame, His willingness, etc.? Without His stripes, we cannot be healed; without His death, there is no life! Is these nothing to us? The pain in Jesus heart was the hardest to bear and that must have broken every sinner's heart, likewise!

Try to meditate this loved hymn written and composed by Stuart Townsend:

1. How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory
2. Behold the man upon the cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished
3. I will not boast for anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom

But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
 His death and resurrection  
 Why should I gain from His reward?  
 I cannot give an answer  
 But this I know with all my heart  
 His wounds have paid my ransom

People's eternal destiny depends upon his response to the word of God and His invitation, given plain and clear – Matthew 11:28; 22:29.

If one would be given a chance to talk when the Righteous Judge declares one guilty on judgment day at His court, what will be your response and first word to answer: "I believe" or "I repent"? This is a standoff that we need to think about: "I repent", would make sense, doesn't it? On the other hand, "I believe" is inappropriate answer and won't totally answers the question above, unless, we mean "a one-inclusive word" for repentance and faith. Otherwise, it's only with the mouth confession and not with he heart – Romans 10:10. Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap everlasting life – Galatians 6:7-8.

E. **ADDENDUM:** (In combined different forms. Some of its references, insights, and main points are reinstated progressively, aimed at restoring points and subjects even more plain, clearer, and understandable):

1. Repentance: like "Faith" is also a "Gift":
  - a. Acts 11:17, 18 & 21 - Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God? When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life... And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.
  - b. 2 Timothy 2:25 - In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;
  - c. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God. Who hath also sealed us, and given us the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.
  - d. Romans 11:29 - For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance (irrevocable; not to be disputed, regretted, be made sorry, disqualified, discredited, set aside, etc.)  
Note: A "gift" is free. The verbs (give, given, granted), when used and established under the Divine authority, like these verses we have now, is a gift and working of the Holy Spirit, in particular; and not man's work, lest any man should boast – Ephesians 2:9.  
Warning: Let's not grab or earn credit, the work of the Holy Spirit of promise! And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby we are sealed unto the day of redemption – Ephesians 4:30.

2. Faith without Repentance: means Saviourship alone, without Lordship. Only wanted to be saved? What a violent act of pride is this!  
James 4:6 - But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. In other words, we can't find grace in this kind of attitude: ungrateful, selfish, irreverent, proud ... you name it!
- a. Luke 2:11 - For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord.
  - b. Philippians 2:11 - And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord...
  - c. Philippians 3:20 - "Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ"
  - d. Titus 1:4 - "Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour"
  - e. 2 Peter 1:11 - "Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"
  - f. 2 Peter 2:22; 3:2 & 18; Isaiah 49:26; 60:16; etc.
3. Acts 20:21 -27 - Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.
- a. The Triune God is always at work (present and active) during conversion time, and God's presence (before He can work or give His grace), demands humility – James 4:6. In other words, there must come a deciding factor first or making up of one's mind because wickedness and holiness can't go together.
  - b. The relationship of God the Father to God the Son, and God the Son to God the Holy Spirit in the plan of salvation:  
2 Corinthians 6:2 - For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation:  
\*God the Father: Design/displays the plan  
\*God the Son: Discharge (worked/ finished) the plan  
\*God the Holy Spirit: Declares/ testifies the plan
  - c. 1 Peter 1:2 - Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ:  
Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.
  - d. Ephesians 2:18 - For through him (Jesus Christ) we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.
  - e. 1 Corinthians 6:11 - And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.
  - f. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 - Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God. Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.
  - g. "Toward" is mentioned 2 times, separately:  
\*One addressed / directed to God the Father  
\*The other addressed / directed to God the Son  
\*And verse 23: The Holy Ghost "witnesseth" or testifying; (at work or doing the work):  
Titus 3:5 - ...by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.  
John 14:26 - ...He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance...

John 15:26 - ...He shall testify of me.

John 16:8 - ...He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.

John 16:13 - ...He will guide you into all truth...and He will show you things to come.

Ephesians 2:18 - For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; etc.

- h. Acts 20:24 - Repentance and Faith is the gospel message to testify under the gospel of grace program of God, which was committed to the apostle Paul – 1 Timothy 1:11.
- i. Acts 20:27 - For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God":  
 Repentance should not be excluded anytime: (all!)  
 \*Repentance: (Opener): Acts 26:18; 2 Timothy 2:25  
 Faith : (Finisher): Hebrews 12:2  
 \*Repentance: Our response, addressed to God the Father  
 Faith : Our response, addressed to God the Son  
 \*Repentance: Brings about restoration – (Mercy – Luke 18:13b)  
 Faith : Brings about salvation – (Grace – Ephesians 2:8)  
 \*Repentance: Closes the door of hell – (Mercy)  
 Faith : Opens the gates of heaven – (Grace)  
Note: Like husband and wife; the 2 are joined together and the two shall be one flesh, and Christ the head – Ephesians 5:21-33. (also: "bride" and "bridegroom"; John 3:29; Revelation 21:2).
4. Luke 15:7 & 10: Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth...
- Question: How do we satisfy Heaven?  
 \*Repentance sends joy in the throne of God  
 \*Acts 11:18 - When they heard these things, they held their peace and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.
5. Luke 24:47 - And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
- a. Repentance here is centered or connects us to that One man (first Adam) sin (singular).  
 Qualifies one for Pardon
- b. "Remission of sins" (plural), must be applied after repentance and faith; (related to Christian living or after one got saved; biblical term applied is "cleansing")  
 Qualifies one for Forgiveness.  
 \*Ephesians 1:6 & 7: To the praise and glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins (plural), according to the riches of his grace.  
 \*Colossians 1:13-18 - Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son. In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins (plural).  
 \*1 John 1:8-10 - If we say that we have no sin (singular), we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, (This is in relation to repentance). If we confess our sins (plural), he is

faithful and just to forgive us our sins (plural), and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

\*Hebrews 10:14 - For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. ("perfected for ever": paid the ransom in fullest measure; sealed our pardon and forgiveness of sins, on the cross)

Note: This is another point opponents of repentance argue when they take the plural form of sin, which is "sins". How can we count or name all the sins that needs to be repented of, they question us? ("a very elementary question", someone commented on this). Of course, only God can do that and He knows we can't do that! That's the very reason why one specific sin (singular) we need to count or manifest, initially. That is, again, the sin that has passed upon all men; by that one man's sin or sin of Adam. We're not sinners because we sin, but rather, we sin because we're born sinners. The question that needs to be asked is not how much sins we should count, but are we sinners or not? Let's be clear on this and build the difference:

"Sin" (singular), after salvation, means: every sin a saved person commits. This, of course falls under the plural category, or sins that still resulted from that "one man's sin by Adam. So, then, everyone who wants to be pardoned of your sin (singular), Repent! If you want to be forgiven of your sins (plural), Confess!). But first of all, one must be convinced of the law as transgressor – James 2:9:

Psalms 19:7 - The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

Romans 3:20b - ...for by the law is the knowledge if sin. (What is the use and purpose of the law if there's no function at all? (Read more of its functions: Romans 3:19 -20 and Galatians 3:24).

Romans 7:7b - (Paul acknowledged)...I had not known sin, but by the law...(Background: Acts 23:2 - Gamaliel was a great teacher of the law; Paul sat with him during his days in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia where he was born).

- c. Repentance and remission of sins goes together when we testify the gospel of grace; (same as Acts 20:21). Remember, both are attached in His name -(Luke 24:47). This was spoken by Christ himself after His death, burrial, resurrection , and before His ascension. Therefore, this is not "another gospel", but the gospel message of grace or gospel of salvation, after the cross!
- d. "Among all nations": not only the nation or house of Israel (as some insist), but to every nation, every place, everywhere; to the Jews first (Romans 1:16); this is their own advantage, chiefly, because unto them were committed the oracles (words) of God – Romans 3:1 & 2.

Note: Luke 24:44-48 - This gospel preaching introduced and spoken by Christ himself; concerning himself; after His resurrection; and after Christ opened up His disciple's poor understanding, that they might understand the scriptures. But also bear in mind, they still doubted later, or were still ignorant. Thomas, Peter, the women or the Mary's, were among them. The book of Acts gives us a clearer and better pictures on this, and some of the epistles, as well.

6. Matthew 11:20 - Then began he to upbraid (reprove sharply, against , angry), the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not.
- No repentance we're against God.
  - Psalms 7:11b - ...God is angry with the wicked everyday.
  - 1 Peter 3:12b - ...but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.
7. 2 Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
- Such a Great God and Wonderful Saviour, Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13b), must be:
    - \*Willing to save
    - \*Able to save: (2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; Jude 24; etc.)
  - No repentance is to perish or perishing:
    - \*Luke 13:3 & 5 - ...except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.
    - \*John 3:16b - ...that whosoever believeth in him should not perish...

Note: This is another familiar verse that would shed light when we say: "believe" is a one-inclusive word for repentance and faith; because the verb "perish" has something to do or is always connected to repentance. As if I would call them "twins", when it comes to birth; one is younger, the other is older, (they don't come out both at the same time); or the Scriptures, ( the Old, and the New testament).
  - No repentance: The Lord is not willing. (This is a very plain, simple English, so easy to understand!); for He is not slack concerning His promise (singular: again, in reference governing sin or repentance).
  - "All should come to repentance": expresses obligation or duty for everybody; in fullness of heart, because we are dealing here with God who is not slack concerning His promise.
  - God wants everybody to experience repentance:
    - \*Job 42:5-6 - I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now my eyes seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.
    - \*Psalms 38:17-18 - For I am ready to halt, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.
    - \*2 Peter 3:9b - ...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
  - God leads us to repentance: (What's the use and purpose of the realization being a sinner if it doesn't lead us to Repentance?)
    - \*Romans 2:4 - ...not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?
    - \*2 Corinthians 7:10a - For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation...
    - \*2 Timothy 2:25b - ...if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth.
  - Repentance makes one guilty, humble, honest, sincere, and true before God:
    - \*The Publican: (Luke 18:9-17); Verse 13: And the Publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven (act of being so humble), but smote his breast (act of repentance), saying, God be merciful to me a sinner (act of genuine faith or acknowledging of the truth).

\*The Penitent Thief: (Luke 23:39-42):

A change of heart

A change of testimony

A change behavior and character

A change of direction: (...and he said to Jesus, Lord, ...)

A change of destiny: (...Today shalt thou be in paradise.); (From hell to paradise)

\*The Apostle Paul: (1 Timothy 1:12-17):

Acknowledged to be the chief of sinners: “Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it in unbelief. (This is Repentance)

Acknowledged he need a Saviour: “...that Christ came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. (This is Faith)

Paul had experienced almost the same thing with that of the Publican and the Penitent thief: a changed heart, testimony, behavior, character, etc. When one response to the Holy Spirit’s conviction that leads to repentance, our merciful God will give a “new heart” and “new spirit” – Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:26-27. The apostle Paul added: Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new – 2 Corinthians 5: 17b. This is one reason why he is not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jews first, and also to the Greeks – Romans 1:16. Another, he is a “debtor”- Romans 1:14: which means, he has an obligation that should follow after for everyone in this period of Grace. This saving grace gospel message caused him to become a prisoner (crucified with Christ), and propelled him to be a good servant of Christ all the rest of his life, until his last breath and martyrdom.

8. Our response in repentance after the conviction of the Holy Spirit is:

- a. Our very agreement made toward God the Father
- b. That we disagree and have the desire to hate, give up, or abandon sin; and
- c. Agreeing His holiness, justice, wrath, and love He provides.

Note: If repentance is no longer necessary before salvation or has no participation before faith unto salvation, then:

- a. Christ did not call every sinner anymore to repent – Matthew 9:13
- b. Christ did not call, give command to preach or testify repentance anymore – Luke 24:47  
Or, if He had to change it, then:
- c. He must have corrected, disannulled, and disallow it later, in harmony or with respect to dispensational arrangement or order, perhaps; for in this case, we find it so crystal clear enough in Hebrews 6:18 - That by two immutable (unchanging) things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us. In addition, Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever – Hebrews 13:8. Jesus Christ who commanded everyone to repent is the same Jesus who saves and will judge the world in righteousness. (Oh, think about this, please!)
- d. Where is the ground of agreement?

- e. What is that we disagreed upon?
  - f. "Believe", would not be a complete biblical answer again, unless, otherwise, one takes honestly, it is a one-inclusive word for repentance and faith.
9. Question: If I ask you now, based on verses such as:
- a. Psalms 7:10 - God judgeth the righteous and God is angry with the wicked everyday.
  - b. 1 Peter 3:12 - For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against the that do evil.
  - c. Revelation 21:8 - But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.
  - d. How would you react? What is your correct biblical answer? Trust? Faith? Believe? or Repent? (For example: If I say to someone: ... by your own admission, you are a liar! What is the right grammatical, constructive, appropriate, and essential answer that makes sense? "I believe" or "I repent"?); or when catastrophic events comes like devastating flood, typhoon, fire, earthquakes, etc., (as perhaps God's warning and reminder of His holiness and man's wickedness), what would be the right answer? "Repent" makes the first right answer before "Believe"! Imagine, an idol worshipper: (God is very much against idolatry – Exodus 20:3-5; Isaiah 42:8; 1 Corinthians 10:14) professing he believes or saying "I believe", but still you can find him worshipping with idols in his church or even at home! Can we believe that person really believed? No repentance! How much more God who looks at the heart?
  - e. Our actual-real identity : A sinner; an enemy – LOST = (We need Repentance)  
Our actual-real remedy: A Saviour; Spotless Lamb of God – FOUND = (We need Faith)  
The Contrasts: (Biblically based):
    - \*1<sup>st</sup> Adam vs. Last or 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam
    - \*Pollution vs. Solution
    - \*Agitator vs. Saviour
    - \*Debtor vs. Payor
    - \*Sin's Mastermind vs. Pay Master
    - \*Initiator vs. Substitutor
    - \*Obtainer vs. Sustainer
    - \*Opener vs. Finisher
    - \*Physical vs. Spiritual: (1<sup>st</sup> birth vs. 2<sup>nd</sup> birth, related to "conversion"), or
    - \*Fire vs. Fire Extinguisher: (Hell or Heaven), etc.
10. Genuine Repentance is:
- a. Job 42:5-6 - ...I abhor myself and repent.
  - b. Psalms 34:18 - ...a broken and contrite (depleted) spirit.
  - c. Psalms 38:17-18 - (David)
    - \*I am ready to halt
    - \*I will declare my iniquity
    - \*I will be sorry for my sin
  - d. Psalms 51:17 - a broken and contrite heart

- e. Isaiah 57:5 - a contrite and humble heart
11. Acts 11:26 - The Disciples were first called "Christians" in Antioch, when granted (gift) repentance unto life (verse 18). Faith and believe is discussed after granting repentance unto life (verses 21-24). By God's Grace, I'm a Christian, and how about you?
12. Question: How could anyone say "no to sin", unless genuine repentance had already been experienced and is present? There's no basis or foundation to say it!:
- Romans 6:1-2 - What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
  - Romans 6:11 - Likewise reckon (count, consider) ye also yourselves to be dead indeed (truly) unto sin (suggesting Repentance), but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord (suggesting Faith).
  - Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Sin issue first before Gift issue; born Rejected first before born Accepted; Repentance first before Faith)
    - \*"For": is our sin (again, sin is singular...we know already what it means) = Repentance!
    - \*"But": is our gift (the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord) = Faith!
  - 1 Corinthians 15:22 - For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. ("even so": suggests repentance and faith, as we have already learned from previous pages)
  - 1 Corinthians 15:45 - And so it is written, the first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. (This applies again Repentance and Faith; that is, "conversion" in two forms; the "turn from" and "turn to").
13. Repentance is before Faith; and Faith, before works or service:
- 1 Thessalonians 1:9b - ...and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.
  - Acts 26:20b - ... that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance- (the fruit, not the root).
  - Matthew 3:8 - Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance.
  - Matthew 7:20 - Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.
 

Note: Repentance, therefore, is again not a work but a "gift" (free!). This is before salvation and let works follow for rewards when one get saved – Titus 2:7; Hebrews 6:10-11; Philippians 2:12-15.
  - John 15:5 - I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.
  - Romans 6:22 - But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
14. Repentance is saying: "I am a sinner"; "You're angry with me"; "Please correct me"; "I'm sorry"; "I repent"; "I am condemned":
- JOB: Job 42:6 - Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.
  - DAVID: Psalms 32:5 - I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. Psalms 38:17-18 - For I am ready to halt, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin.

Psalms 51:1-5 - Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, I have sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightiest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

- c. ISAIAH: Isaiah 6:5a - Then said I, Woe is me! For I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips...
  - d. THE PUBLICAN: Luke 18:13b - ...but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.
  - e. THE PENITENT THIEF: Luke 23:39-42 - ...Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.
  - f. THE APOSTLE PAUL: 1 Timothy 1:15 - This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.
15. Repentance is humbling or surrendering:
- a. Matthew 23:12 - And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.
  - b. James 4:6b - God resisteth the proud but giveth grace unto the humble.
  - c. James 4:10 - Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.
  - d. 1 Peter 5:6 - Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.
  - e. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.
  - f. Proverbs 8:13 - The fear of the Lord is to hate evil; pride, and arrogance, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.
  - g. Proverbs 16:18 - Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.
  - h. 1 John 2:16 - For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (all these originated in the garden of Eden – Genesis 3:6).
  - i. Pride of life means:
    - \*not humbling or surrendering
    - \*no admission of guilt
    - \*Unrepentant (no desire to “turn from”; only wants to “turn to”)
    - \*Not saying “sorry” or be sorrowful
    - \*Saying: “I don’t need Someone; I can do or handle it, myself!”
    - \*Ungrateful
    - \*Not ready for the remedy, solution, and cure
    - \*Pretentious (Pretender)

- \*Procrastinating (postponing or delaying); ...you name it!!!
- j. Proverbs 28:13 - He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. (again, repentance and faith is clearly demanded, addressing “before” and “after”).
- k. Note: When one acknowledges his guilt or sin, the easiest, simplest, and shortest way how to say it is “I’m sorry” or “I repent”. And in return, the shortest, simplest, and easiest reply is “pardoned” or “forgiven”! That is again, Repentance and Faith. (to say “sorry”, suggests repentance; and to hear such reply as “forgiven”, suggests faith; seems like really twins or husband and wife, aren’t they?)
16. Hebrews 10:14 - (One of the favorite verse equated by “no repentance” before salvation groups: “...I give you this Bible, all you’ve got to do is just receive it...enough”, they demonstrate it with a big smile! Oh, that’s fine, anyway! A “gift” always deserve a big and a heavenly smile! Look at the angel of the Lord, with the heavenly host praising God joyfully when announcing, a Saviour is born! – Luke 2:8-11).
- a. “For by one offering he hath perfected for ever”: is the perfect offer for the remedy of sin by the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin (again, singular) of the world. And remember, this is not automatic! Some things must be accomplished first: (“the vehicles”; “accompanying party”; or “the package of God’s grace”).
- b. “them that are sanctified”: Sanctified or sanctification occurs in various forms some 300 times in the New Testament and 760 times in the Old Testament. The basic meaning is: “to set apart”. This is what God does in us (deals with our fruits, our state or condition, check our growth, etc.), after we are saved or perfected forever:
- \*To be conformed to the image of His Son - Romans 8:29
  - \*To check our growth and maturity - 2 Corinthians 4:1-2
  - \*To equip us in the ministry or in serving Him - 2 Corinthians 4:3-5
  - \*To live for Him - 2 Corinthians 5:15
  - \*To live by the faith of the Son of God – Galatians 2:20
  - \*To live unto righteousness – 1 Peter 2:24
  - \*To glorify God - 2 Corinthians 4:6
- Note: This verse and more they are citing (see: Introduction, b.), only speaks of the finished work of redemption, the remedy or cure for sin, and don’t tell anything, any bit about repentance, (I think we need not to smile on this, this time around). Remember, Faith is one, and Repentance is another, but both are “a package of God’s wonderful grace or plan of salvation to mankind.
17. Acts 17:30-31 - And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.
- a. Again, the coverage or range of repentance is past, present, and future; until judgment day! (Oh, how can we get away with this! How could we disregard it! Until when?):
- \*1 Corinthians 14:33 - For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

- \*Romans 3:4a - God forbid: yea, let God be true, but everyman is a liar...
- b. Jeremiah 9:24 - But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.
  - c. James 2:13 - For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shown no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.
  - d. Romans 2:16 - In the day when God shall judge the secrets of man by Jesus Christ according to my gospel (Gospel of Christ, committed unto Paul – 1 Timothy 1:11)
  - e. Hebrews 6:18 - (God can not lie!): That by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us. (This is again, Repentance and Faith; “turn from” and “turn to”).

#### F. CONCLUSION:

1. There are four things one must believe, in this area of study:
  - a. You have sinned – Romans 3:10 & 23 -----Repentance
  - b. The penalty of sin is death – Romans 6:23a; Romans 5:12 ----- Repentance
  - c. Jesus died to pay for our sins – Romans 5:8; Romans 6:23b ----- Faith
  - d. Jesus invites one to be saved today! – Romans 10:9-13 -----Faith

Being a sinner is totally different from believing we have a Saviour. Therefore, the God of the Bible; the disciples, and the apostles (the apostle Paul in particular), were always right to testify and preach that Repentance and Faith is not “another gospel”, but the gospel message of Grace, under this present dispensation of Grace.

2. Revelation 20:12-15 - Book of books be opened ; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books. The book of books is where God’s constitution and records be found. Repentance can’t disappear there- (Job 16:19b; Psalms 56:8; Malachi 3:16). Because: (again, the range or coverage of repentance is until judgment day). Think of Peter in Matthew 26:69-75 - even the cock demonstrated clear disapproval when denying Jesus thrice. The cock made a motion that Peter’s denial reminds him of what Jesus had told him already (a call for repentance); And he went out and wept bitterly.

3. Conviction of sin by the Holy Spirit brings about true or genuine Repentance. Reason, because the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom –(Psalms 111:10); and the fear of the Lord is to hate evil –(Proverbs 8:13). Conviction of sin shows how desperate a person that are “dead in sin”; under God’s wrath and condemnation, needing a Redeemer and Saviour! It’s impossible doing this by ourselves without the power of the Holy Spirit (our Superintendent). Therefore, when He works, we don’t have to worry anymore, because He also sealed!

4. Getting right away to the cure or remedy (Faith), without the realization who you are, what you are, and where you are (Repentance), is like forming a sentence without a subject. If we describe or form only the predicate, it's not a sentence at all! The same in singing hymns like: "Victory in Jesus"; (...) = (and I repented of my sin), and won the victory!) Oh, by the way, some of those who oppose repentance before salvation are still enjoying singing this, time after time! And it seems, this disapproving groups nowadays only want to emphasize the grace, love, mercy and goodness of God. They're only being reminded of that wonderful love and Calvary, that wonderful grace of Jesus, the veil of the temple that was rent in twain from top to bottom, but have forgotten the Cross that He bore for mankind; when he cried with a loud voice, saying, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? They have forgotten that the cross they made for Him was His creation and they that nailed Him there plus the nails were all His creation, too! And having said that, I can't really imagine singing such lines with a pure, sincere, and honest heart without the initial understanding, how lost they must be, being a sinner...God alone can understand! And it's surprising to hear preachers say aloud ..."We are all sinners by nature, condemned, and guilty before a Just and Holy God!", and don't hear even just a follow-up little whisper like "Repent"! Of course, God looketh on the heart, but let me just give you 3 different categories a person we can have along this line: (a) The vocal and non vocal: people who are not really genuinely converted (they are the "almost" or "about" to be saved; (b) The non vocal: yet had "turned from" and had "turned to"; and (c) The vocal: that had really experienced true and genuine conversion; and yet these are they that testifieth (body, soul, spirit), doing business for Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour!

5. Though some rejects repentance before salvation, or some are not vocal at all, I would come to believe (if they are really saved people), that they are just pretending; too shy, perhaps; or not honest at all to reveal the truth. For one, it is impossible to be converted without the "turning from" and "turning to". More likely, some perhaps just want to vindicate or protect their good image and reputations in order not to be humiliated or be criticized. Perhaps, they feel there is a ray of comfort to abound more by abandoning or giving up, rather than maintaining or sheltering it. My point is, (as we've already studied), that "Conversion" has a twofold turning on the part of an individual; and let's be clear: that is Repentance and Faith ("turn from" and "turn to").

With all due respect, I cannot really imagine, how a renowned Bible television teacher and evangelist (I really admire much of his teachings, God knows; but I feel uncomfortable when he) distancing himself, not vocal, not giving emphasis or perhaps discredit Repentance in salvation. When he comes to a verse related to salvation (take for example: Hebrews 11:6), and the word "believe" appears, a follow-up question comes like this: (Did it say "Repent"? No!). But see what he said and wrote, and I quote: "The heart, the very most inner being of everyone of us. The word of God is able to tell us what we are thinking. Now, that's hard to comprehend, isn't it? But you see, as you feed on the word of God and you meditate on it, what does it do? It convicts! It convicts us of every evil thought; it convicts us of everything that we do contrary to the word of God, because that's its purpose. It is to reveal us where we are missing the mark. It reveals us how far we are falling short, and it's only by God's grace that He lets us get away with

it". (My question: how can something be wrong, be right? Repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus is the biblical answer). In fact, there are many verses in the Bible that doesn't mention the word "Repent or Repentance", yet, it speaks of it. We have taken and discussed many in this study already. But just to remind once more a verse of its kind; and let me give you Proverbs 28:13 - He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

6. Revelation 20:11-15 - At the court hearing day of the unsaved, after their resurrection, when death and hell (not yet the Lake of fire) delivered up the dead; the book of records (the book of books) finally be opened. When The Righteous Judge will give His verdict of eternal punishment in the lake of fire, based on the books; I got the feeling how regretful and remorseful they must be! There must be endless crying, perhaps (but not comparable to that of John the Baptist when he cried out, saying: Repent ye:); for they did not emerged in God's command to Repent and heed the invitation to place their trust (Faith) on the finished work of redemption by God's only Son, the Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who also is the Judge, himself - (John 5:27; Acts 10:42). This is their second and final death (separation). Final, because there is no more exit in that Lake of fire; final, because God's justice is served; and final, because it's eternal -(with beginning but no ending). The only remedy: The Alpha, The Omega!

On the other hand, I am convinced, if they would cry aloud on that day, the noise that can be heard most will be "I repent!", because the phrase "I believe" is out of place already; for they had their final doom ready for them. Aside, they have perhaps used that word "Believe" during their days on earth but not in reference to a twofold turning or "one-inclusive word for Repentance and Faith". Therefore, because they disapproved Repentance before, they will not miss this time and have it now be revealed, shouted, and proclaimed, themselves. But it's too late! Oh, what a tragedy! I don't know for sure what it takes, but it seems to me (my personal opinion only: those who teach to eliminate repentance will face double accountability). In addition, why can't we just humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God and say "sorry", "I'm turning from", or "I repent"? It's not hard to say that heartily, for a second or a minute, unless you harden your heart! This is the biblical-simple plan of Salvation. "Believe" means Repentance and Faith; "turn from" and "turn to"; the doctrine of "Conversion".

Proverbs 28:14 - Happy is the man that feareth always: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief (troubles/ harm). If we missed Repentance, we're below God's standard because holiness is God's unchanging standard, and it's eternal. There is a saying that goes like this: If you take care of your car (vehicle), your car will take care of you! And if one made a mistake putting the right fuel into his car's tank, he will surely encounter troubles. Fill your car with the designated fuel, and you will arrive your destination.

2 Corinthians 13:5 & 8 - Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates (rejected, unapproved, no hope of salvation, not in Christ)? For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.

7. Let me end this by leaving you a thought by C. H. Spurgeon. And this is what he said: “If you never look on sin without sorrow (Repentance), then, you never looked on Christ” (Faith).

And let me leave you a thought, likewise: We must talk to God first, (who, what, and where we are = Repentance), before He talks to us, (who Jesus is = Faith). This is what we are really commanded to testify and preach in this period of Grace. God says what He means always, and means what He says. Like a compass, always pointing to the north pole, the throne of God - (Psalms 48:2; Isaiah 14:13).

And finally, I would always love to quote – Acts 20:21 & 24 - Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Thank you, and may God bless you!

PREFACE:

I dedicate this little book to my much loved wife, children, in-laws, and grandchildren, that by the Grace of God will guide them all more in the years ahead.

I'm indebted and so grateful to all my mentors at The Shepherd's Voice Correspondence Course, as well as The Hampton Court Bible Institute, I profited greatly.

It's always been a blessing to have such an ever supportive relatives like Dr. Norman and Mrs. Bangalan. They're just there with us during our Bible school years.

All those wonderful people around me, the workers , the pastors, and fellow Christians throwing their support to defend this bible doctrine. And most of all, The Living Waters Asia, founded and under the direction by my eldest son, Dennis Mark, who inspired me most concerning the progression of this simple book.

To God be the Glory!