

### ***Do I need to repent?***

This question has been asked by countless people over the ages. If this question were answered from the mind of man only, the answer would be, "No, I do not need to repent. What do I need to repent of anyway? I am not worse than any other person!" But if this question were answered from the mind of God in God's Word the Bible, the answer would be a definite, "Yes, you do need to repent."

### ***Yes, God commands us to repent.***

The Lord Jesus began His public ministry commanding His listeners to "*Repent, and believe the Gospel*" (Mark 1:15). Jesus commissioned the eleven Apostles to preach, "*that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations*" (Luke 24:47). God "*now commandeth all men everywhere to repent*" (Acts 17:30). This command was to all men, not just to the Jewish nation.



### ***What does it mean to repent?***

The word repent means "a change of mind" which results in a change of direction in one's life. But what

do I need to change my mind about? To change your mind according to the Bible is to agree with God that you are a lost sinner in the sight of God. "*There is none righteous, no not one*" (Romans 3:10). "*There is none that doeth good no not one*" (Romans 3:12). "*For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God*" (Romans 3:23). To come short of the glory of God means that we have completely failed to truly bring honor and glory to God. Instead we have sinned or rebelled against God and gone our own sinful way. Repentance acknowledges that there needs to be a change in our life.

The Bible tells us that repentance involves godly sorrow over our sin. "*For godly sorrow worketh (brings about) repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death*" (II Cor. 7:10). Repent now, or change your mind by agreeing with God that you are a sinner in His sight. If you do not repent you will perish or suffer in Hell forever in order to pay for your sins against God. "*Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish*" (Luke 13:3).



### ***How can I turn to God?***

Now that this change of mind has enabled us to see ourselves as sinners before God, the next thing we need to do is to turn to God for His help. Paul ". . . showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do the works (deeds) meet (fitting) for repentance" (Acts 26:20). "Turn" here means a change of direction towards God, looking only to Him for deliverance from your sin and its penalty in Hell. The direction of your life changes when you look to God alone for His help and salvation.

"*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord*" (Romans 6:23). This death is not just physical death, but spiritual death, which is separation from God forever in Hell. ". . . In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power" (II Thess. 1:8-9).

### ***Repenting is believing.***

This change of mind causes us to agree with God that we are lost sinners on our way to Hell. We must not only agree

