

## Tears of Repentance

*E. Irving*

The tears of repentance are very different from the tears that are shed over the loss of some things or friendships. They are different from tears of disappointments. Real tears of repentance are those that the Lord blesses, because of a heart that wants to get right with Him.

*"... Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh." Luke 6:21*

Those are the tears of repentance, which Peter shed when he went out and wept bitterly (Mat. 26:75). They are the same tears which Mary Magdalene shed when she washed her Lord's feet. They are the tears which burst from our hearts, when we looked upon Jesus whom we pierced because of our sins, and when we remember unrepented sin.

## God Changed Their Lives

B	M	N	O	I	R	U	T	N	E	C	Q
B	A	R	T	I	M	A	E	U	S	S	Q
D	N	A	P	O	L	L	O	S	W	U	N
O	I	M	Z	H	H	L	U	A	S	I	M
N	A	A	R	A	I	T	R	J	Y	L	M
A	C	G	W	E	C	L	U	G	S	E	A
C	R	D	B	E	L	C	I	R	A	N	H
I	E	A	A	O	R	I	H	P	M	R	A
L	P	L	H	V	C	D	A	A	U	O	R
B	E	E	K	A	I	A	N	J	E	C	B
U	L	N	G	R	B	D	J	A	L	U	A
P	F	E	I	H	T	G	N	I	Y	D	S

### Words to Find:

Abraham  
Andrew  
Apollus  
Bartimaeus  
Centurion  
Cornelius  
David  
DyingThief  
Jacob  
Jailer  
Leper  
Maniac  
Phillip  
Publican  
Rahab  
Ruth  
Samuel  
Saul  
Zacchaeus

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## Many "Second" Chances

*Bill Brinkworth*

*"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:5*

In Luke 13 verses 2-4, Jesus gives two terrible tragedies that occurred at the time. One was a man, who some believe may have been the notorious Judas of Galilee (Acts 5:37), whose death was ordered by Pilate (Luke 13:1). The other was the unusual death of 18 people, when a tower fell on them (Luke 13:4).



Of both events, Jesus asked His listeners if they thought that the deceased were terrible sinners to have had such horrible deaths. Apparently, the one that was killed by Pilate had committed some horrific infraction against the government. The other tragic

deaths, although most likely caused by an accident, appeared to be a judgment from God.

Although not all deaths and hardships are judgments from God, sometimes they are. Jesus addressed those that are by answering His own questions by saying, "... except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3, 5).

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## The Bible and Repentance

*Gleaned from Bible Readings for the Home, pg. 89-90*

Who are called to repentance? *"I [Jesus] came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Luke 5:32*

What accompanies repentance? *"Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: "*

*Matthew 3:8*

Who awakens the soul to a sense of its sinful condition?

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## Many "Second" ...

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Jesus explained with the use of a parable (Luke 13:6-9) to help his listeners understand why God sometimes allows terrible things to happen to those who are blatantly committing sin. The parable is about a fig tree that would not produce any fruit. The man that owned the tree was not happy that for several years it had not produced fruit. He was going to give it one more chance to produce fruit. If it did not, he was going to have it cut down.

When one is in sin, God is very patient and merciful. He could easily bring a sinner's life to an end, but He gives him multiple chances to stop his sin and change his life-style. There may come a time, as with the fig tree, that a person will not turn from their sin, and God will end their life.

What a warning to those that think they are "getting away" with sin! There will come a time that God's mercy will not be poured out on one's ignoring God's commands. There is always a payday for sin some day. Turn from violations against God, and ask for His forgiveness today!

**"You CANNOT REPENT TOO SOON, BECAUSE YOU DO NOT KNOW HOW SOON IT MAY BE TOO LATE."** — Fuller

## The Nature of Repentance

*R. Watson*

Repentance, as explained by John the Baptist's ministry, is a conviction of the fact of sin; a sharp and painful conviction. A conviction that never produced humility, never sighed, never wept, and never sought solitude for the purpose of prayer and reflection, is not that which is an element of true repentance. Repentance is a serious and painful apprehension of the danger of sin's involvement. Hence John asked the Pharisees and Sadducees that came to his baptism, "*But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees* ['religious', but ungodly sect members] *come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?*" Mat. 3:7 There can be God's wrath for continuance in sin.

Repentance is a humble confession of sin. The people confessed generally to John; for it was impossible for him to enter into the particulars of each case; but to God they confessed their sins in detail.

Repentance is fruitful. Under its influence, the churl (bad-mannered people) become kind and considerate; the unjust become righteous; and those who had formerly been careless of their spiritual interests wait upon God in the use of every means of grace.

Repentance is despairing, but hopeful. The people who were awakened under John's ministry felt that in themselves, there was no help; and he taught them to seek Christ the Saviour.

## The Bible and ...

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*"And when he [the Holy Spirit] is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"* John 16:8

✿ What will the truly repentant sinner be constrained to do?

*"For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin."*

*Ps .38:18*

✿ What is the result of godly sorrow?

*"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."*

*II Cor. 7:10*

✿ What leads sinners to repentance?

**"BEING SORRY YOU GOT CAUGHT IN THE COMMISSION OF SIN IS NOT ALWAYS REPENTANCE. REPENTANCE IS SINCERELY DESIRING YOU HAD NEVER DONE THE SIN IN THE FIRST PLACE AND DOING ALL YOU CAN, WITH GOD'S HELP AND FORGIVENESS, TO NEVER DO IT AGAIN!"**

*"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"* Rom. 2:4

## Repentance ...

*Bill Brinkworth*

1. Stopping sin, bad behaviors, and habits does not get one forgiven.
2. Stopping sin, bad behavior, habits, and living a better life, does not give anyone entrance to heaven. One must be saved (John 3:3) to go to Heaven.
3. Stopping sin, bad behaviors, and habits may ease your personal guilt, but it will not ease your guiltiness between you and the Father, unless you ask for forgiveness (Romans 10:9).
4. Stopping sin, bad behaviors, and habits can be good "works", if you think it will clear your sin-slate with God. Good works that we can do will not get anyone to Heaven:  
*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast."*  
*Eph 2:8 -9*
5. Not stopping sin, bad behaviors, and habits when the Holy Spirit convicts one's heart, may harden one's heart from further hearing His convicting "voice".