

## Solution to Study 0009

A. Based on the following scriptures, what is repentance not?

***Genesis 25:29-34; Hebrews 12:16-17; Exodus 8:8-15, 20-32; 9:22-35; Joshua 7:1-26; 1 Samuel -15:1-31; Matthew 27:3-5; Acts 8:5-25.***

*Repentance is not:*

- *Shedding tears because we realize the value of what we have lost or mere regret just because we missed a blessing.*
- *Saying you are sorry just because you want respite or relief from an unpleasant condition;*
- *Admitting guilt or confessing to a sin only after you have been caught, found out, or discovered;*
- *Something we do so that we can be saved the disgrace or embarrassment of public humiliation, or a face-saving action;*
- *Punishing ourselves or inflicting pain on ourselves as a means of paying for our sins (Jesus Christ is the only One who is qualified to pay for our sins, and He has done that; hence it is our acknowledgment of His deeds that frees us from sin);*
- *Committing another sin as a means of paying for our sins;*
- *It is not a shallow remorse for sin with a view to gaining acceptance, or making a confessional statement without really meaning to change your ways*

B. Considering the findings from “A” above, as well as the scriptures below, what does true repentance consist of?

***2 Corinthians 7:8-11; Psalm 38:1-22; 32:3-5; Luke 15:11-21; Psalm 51:3; 1 John 1:9; Proverbs 28:13; Ezekiel 20:42-44; Leviticus 6:1-7; Luke 19:8-9; 2 Chronicles 33:10-16; Luke 3:7-14.***

*True repentance consists of:*

- *Godly sorrow for sin which leads to a change in action;*
- *An admittance of guilt for sin, made as a confession to God;*
- *A confession of guilt to God;*
- *A realization of one’s sin, followed by a decision to confess it, and an abandonment a sinful lifestyle;*
- *An acknowledgment of guilt;*
- *Forsaking sin;*
- *Loathing what sin has done to you, and thus hating sin;*
- *Acknowledging the Lordship of God and Christ;*
- *Making good the wrong that was done in the past;*
- *Taking away every object of sin and sinful living from your life and home;*
- *Doing works that are a departure from our past sinful nature.*

- C. Please arrange your findings in “B” above in a form that reads something like, “**The Steps or Process of True Repentance**”. For example, (1) must take place before (2); after (2) then comes (3); and so on.

**The Steps or Process of True Repentance**

1. Realization of one’s sins (*Job 33:14-30*)
2. Acknowledgment of guilt
3. Confession of sin
4. Acknowledgment of the Lordship of God and Christ
5. Forsaking sin/ our old ways
6. Hatred for sin
7. Removing every object of sin/sinful living:
  - a. Alcohol, empty cases of beer, wine bars, tobacco pipes, etc.
  - b. Shrines, cult implements, etc.
  - c. Love letters of past relationships, etc.
  - d. Forged Certificates, etc.
  - e. Eliminating evil friendships, etc.
8. Restitution of all things that is practical [counsel from a pastor is absolutely necessary before you embark on any restitution whatsoever]
  - a. Return what has been stolen to its owner
  - b. Tell the truth where you had told a lie
  - c. Vacate jobs that you got with forged certificates
9. Begin to do good works.

**Conclusion**

True repentance can be said to be:

- (1) A **turning** away from **sin/sinful living** and a **turning** to **righteousness**.
- (2) A **change** of **attitude** leading to a **change** of **action/character**.
- (3) No longer **doing** what you used to which was **sinful/bad/evil/ungodly/wrong**; but now **doing** things that are **righteous/good/godly**.

Please note that repentance is not simply a ‘once only’ act, but an attitude of heart that is both basic to, and the basis for, our on-going relationship with God!