



Introduction:

- **The Heart Beat of Gospel Living: Repentance and Faith** (Matthew 3:1-2; Mark 1:14-14; Luke 24:45-47; Acts 2:37-38; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Peter 3:8-9; Revelation 3:19-20)

Repentance is a change in direction, a Spirit-empowered turning around...turning away from our sins and toward the living God. - Esau McCaulley

Repentance in the Bible involves a complete and irreversible change of mind, heart, and actions. Repentance recognizes that our sin is offensive to God. To repent means to make an about-face, heart-directed turn away from self to God, from the past to a future ruled by God's commands, acknowledging that the Lord reigns supreme over one's existence.

Worldly or Godly Sorrow...

⁸ Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it—I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while—⁹ yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. ¹⁰ Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.¹¹ See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what longing, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. – 2 Corinthians 7:8-11

Turning...

⁶⁰ Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." ⁶² And he went outside and wept bitterly. – Luke 22:60-62

"True repentance has a distinct reference to the savior. When we repent of sin, we must have one eye upon sin and another upon the cross, or it will be better still if we fix both of our eyes upon Christ and see our transgressions in light of His love." – Spurgeon, *Morning and Evening*

The Hope of Repentance...

"Repent" is the sound of Love calling out to the broken and huddled in shadows, lonely for home and fearful of ever facing the Father again, "Come home, it's okay, we can be whole again." – Rachel Starr Thompson, *To Repent is to Hope*
