

*"I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."* Luke 5:32 KJV

*"There is none righteous, no, not one."* Jesus came to call men to repentance. Repentance is not feeling sorry or crying over sin, repentance is forsaking sin. God tells us that *"sin is the transgression of (breaking) the Law."* His Word is His Law. If you disobey the Word of God, you have sinned. Ignorance of it is no excuse. *"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the Truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse. The heavens declare the glory of God."* You are not alone. *"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God."* Jesus said, *"He that believeth not is condemned already."* But if by faith you believe and obey God's Word, you have *"passed from death unto Life."* Believing it to be true is not enough. *"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble."* You cannot please yourself and forsake sin. You must obey God's Word through faith. Satan uses emotions to coerce us to sin, but we always choose what WE want. Anger, most often, causes bitterness and sin! God's Word says *"be angry and sin not."* Refusing to help a brother that has wronged me, is, in essence, taking revenge *"in absentia."* *"Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine; I will repay,' saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Then came Peter to him, and said, 'Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?' Jesus saith unto him, 'I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven."* FORE-giveness means I determine BEFORE to forgive. God does not grant it until sought, but promises to forgive ALL those that call upon Him. Until I completely forgive my brother, I am in sin. The root of many sins is bitterness towards others. *"Looking diligently lest...any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled."* I do not forgive the lost man His sin. Only God can forgive sin and then only to those who repent of it. If you haven't forsaken your sin, you have not repented and remain unforgiven. The only sure way to stay out of sin is by reading, studying, and meditating (thinking) on God's Word *"day and night."* It should always be the measure of your thoughts. *"Thy Word have I hid in mine heart (thoughts) that I might not sin against Thee."*



Repentance is forsaking sin,  
Allowing Truth control within,  
Forgiving all their trespasses,  
Obeying Christ with blessedness. ~CGP

Didn't Christ die for us while we *"were yet sinners?"* Was He not terribly wronged at Calvary? Did He cease to love, seek, or forgive the rebellious sons of Adam? *"If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."* Forgiveness allows God to forgive me when I sin. *"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."*

*"And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.' And they parted His raiment, and cast lots."* Luke 23:33-34 KJV