

"The sower soweth the word. And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness; And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended." Mark 4:14-17 KJV



The prayer of repentance is always acceptable to God. He delights in penitent cries. *"For WHOSOEVER shall call upon the name of the Lord, shall be saved!"* Repentance involves sorrow for sin, turning away from wrongdoing, and learning to obey the Word of God. Crying over sin is NOT repentance. Forsaking sin is repentance! Repentance which does not produce a change is a sham. *"Old things [must] pass away, and Behold; all things [must] become new."* Religion is full of pseudo Christianity. It looks wonderful on Sunday, but never leaves the building. It may resurface midweek for an hour or so, but promptly vanishes. Believers have copious amounts of head-knowledge, but souls that hear and know the Voice of God are rare! *Y sheep HEAR my Voice AND they follow (obey) me.* Prayers go unanswered because commands go unheeded. *"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep (obey) His commandments."* If your meditation and prayer life are nonexistent, so is your faith. Meditation and prayer are what believers need the most and do the least. Offense comes, because we do not love God's law. *"Great peace have they which love Thy law and NOTHING shall offend them."* If it looks like a duck and quacks like a duck, It is a duck. If it looks worldly and talks worldly, it is worldly. You are not being judgmental by declaring the obvious. A Ford isn't a Chevy. If it dresses like a bum, it is a bum. If it doesn't dress Christian, it isn't. It may be that only God knows the heart, but He also said, *"As he thinketh in his heart, so is he."* You will exhibit outwardly what you are inwardly. Words don't betray you; actions do. When you're alone your true character emerges. You can't hide it from God. If that doesn't frighten you then you are a fool! Many say, "God understands." Yes, He does, but He never condones sin! He will hold you accountable. *"For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known."* It's not what men think of you that counts. God is your Judge. How will you look when God reveals all secrets on Judgment Day? Believers are forgiven, but not exempt from revelation. *"Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."* You may think you pray earnestly, but unless you obey zealously, it's simply a ritual. Judgment will fall swiftly on the unrepentant. *"Therefore, pray not thou for this people, neither lift up a cry or prayer for them; for I will not hear them in the time that they cry unto Me for their trouble."* Living right is doing right. It can only be accomplished if the heart is right. Do you really know God? More to the point: Do you hear and obey God? Does God know you?

When the cares of life assail,
The truly faithful will prevail,
If your words deny your deeds,
Then your Father is not pleased. ~CGP

Ask God for the desire to do right and then get in God's Word and find out what is right! People don't read God's Word, because they think ignorance of God's Law will somehow excuse them on Judgment Day! If your heart is right, you'll be right!

"Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." Psalms 119:11 KJV