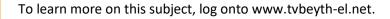
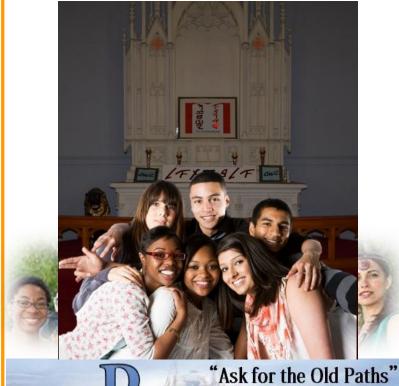
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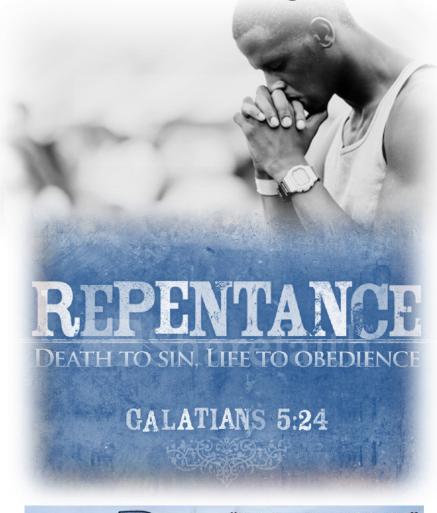


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More often than not, many believers have a difficult time defining exactly what repentance or forgiveness is. Perhaps this is due to the fact that most have never truly repented from sin or forgiven others of their trespasses. If you were to ask the average believer to define the word repent, you might hear that to repent means to be truly sorry for committing a sin, or as any dictionaries state, "to have a change of mind (heart); however, very few believers, if any, are taught to recognize why they should be sorrowful and have a change of mind. Sin is not only the transgression (breaking) of the law of God – I John 3: 4, but our sins have separated us from God; therefore, we should repent from trespassing against his commandments – Isaiah 59: 2.

While most people that come to Christ have a desire to repent, they are unaware of the steps that are needed to repent. In order to fully repent, you must first come into the complete knowledge of Christ. For example, going from being an atheist to a believer is a start. We can repent from ever denying the Son because we now understand not only is it wrong, but there is no chance of eternal life without accepting the son. Accepting Christ but not accepting all of the teachings of Christ(Apostles doctrine) will still cause you to be in sin.

What, then, is repentance? And is repentance necessary for salvation? Below, the Bible points out that there is a difference between "godly sor-

10 "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." 2 Corinthians 7:10

row," and "the sorrow of the world." In so doing, it suggests that the sorrow of the world is not true repentance, for it is often based upon the embarrassment of being caught in a wrongful act, but godly sorrow, worketh repentance being based upon the knowledge that the wages (payment) for it is death, the true believer stops the practice of sin. Anyone who expects to be forgiven for their transgressions against God or man, must, at the very least, be willing to forgive those who transgress against them.



Too often, believers have convinced themselves that they will receive the blessings of promise from God despite their failure to repent from their sins against God, but they are sadly mistaken, for believers have been ad-

monished to "forgive the trespasses of those that have wronged them, if we expect our trespasses to be forgiven by God.

STEPS TOWARDS REPENTANCE.

1. Forgive those that have wronged you.

14 For <u>if ye forgive men their trespasses</u>, <u>your heavenly Father</u> <u>will also forgive you</u>:15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6:14-15

2. Learn of his true ways.

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death. –Proverbs 16:25

3. Repent & be baptized in his only sacred name.

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yasha' Mashiykah (Jesus Christ) for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. –Acts 2:38 (also see Acts 4:12)

4. Continue in the true Apostle's doctrine.

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.-Acts 2:41-42