




Lesson 3

Faith and Repentance

Introduction: Many people place their trust in a religious experience which was “better felt than told.” Can you remember the very first time you ever had a case of indigestion, or nervousness, or felt despair or anger? When it comes to our relationship with God, He does not expect us to rely on either some emotional or physical sensation which could later be misinterpreted. Instead, you have the ability to pinpoint the exact moment of your conversion through the experience of your intellectual response to the Word of God, followed by a physical demonstration of that response: submitting to baptism. If you ever doubt your salvation you need only read again the conversion passages and reconfirm your response to the Word. Let’s look at some words which describe your initial *actions* of obedience.

 **Look up these words in W.E. Vine’s Expository Dictionary of N.T. Words:**

BELIEF (pisteuo, page 116) to believe, also _____ not mere credence.

REPENT (metaneo, page 279) to perceive afterwards _____ involving a change for the _____.

FAITH: Read Hebrews 11.1 and define the word “faith” in your own words:

REPENTANCE: Read II Corinthians 7.8-10 and describe the difference between godly and worldly sorrow:

GODLY	WORLDLY

Teacher’s Exercise: Ask one of the students to imagine there is a chair on the floor between you and him. He, therefore believes there is a chair. Now ask him to walk to you. If he walked around the imaginary chair he has a deeper belief because he has now surrendered to his belief. Now test the depth of his belief by asking him to sit in the chair. This **trust** is the kind of faith exhibited by the heroes of faith in Hebrews 11. Our faith should grow from our initial conversion to this type of trusting faith. Talk about how that can happen and when...

Verse 10 says godly sorrow produces:

From Verse 11, follow the process of true and godly repentance:

THREE ELEMENTS OF FAITH
(W.E. VINE)

- 1) A firm conviction, producing a full acknowledgment of God’s revelation or truth.
James 2.17-20
- 2) a personal full surrender to Him. **John 1.12**
- 3) a conduct inspired by such a surrender. **II Corinthians 5.7**

