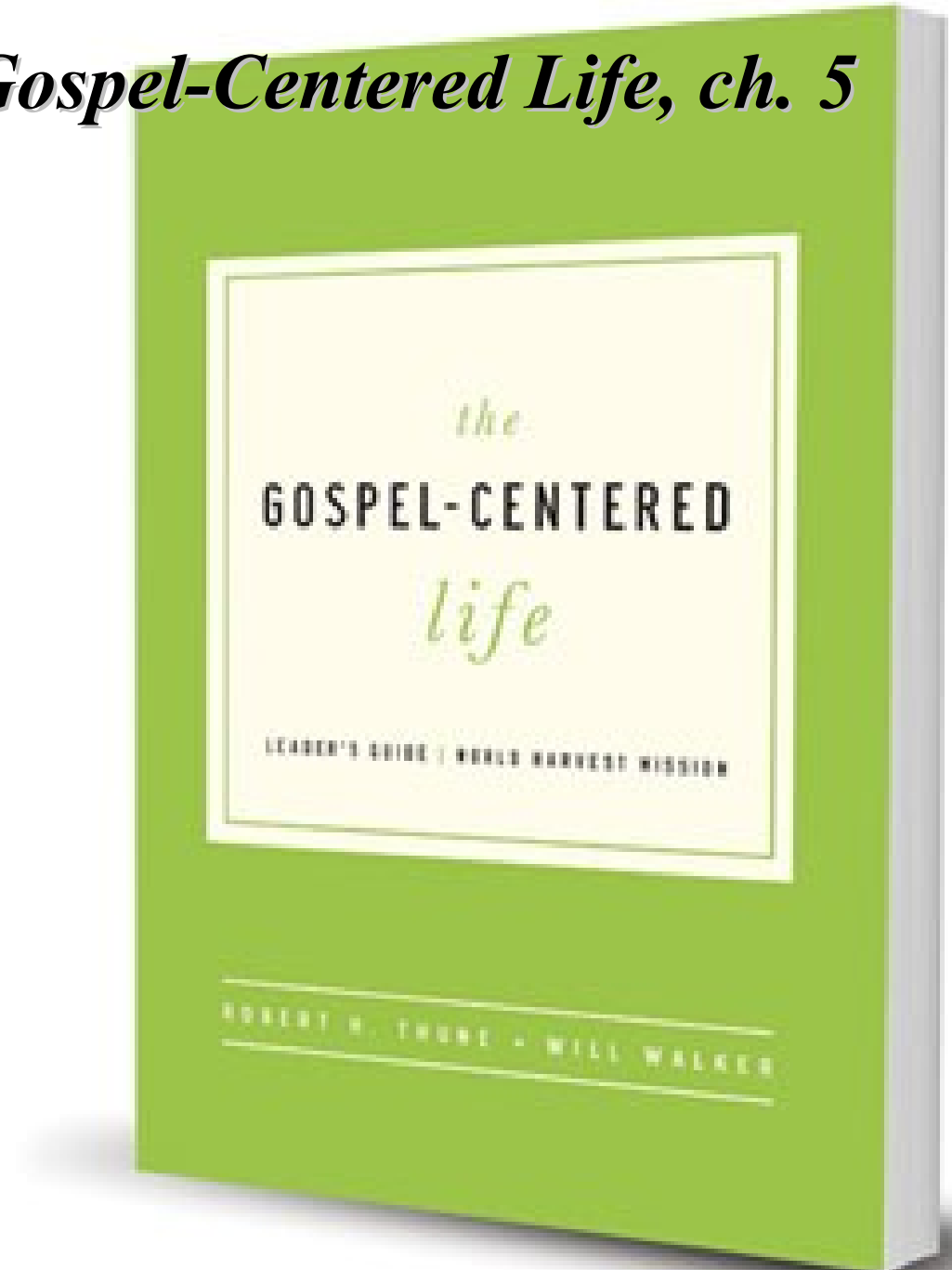
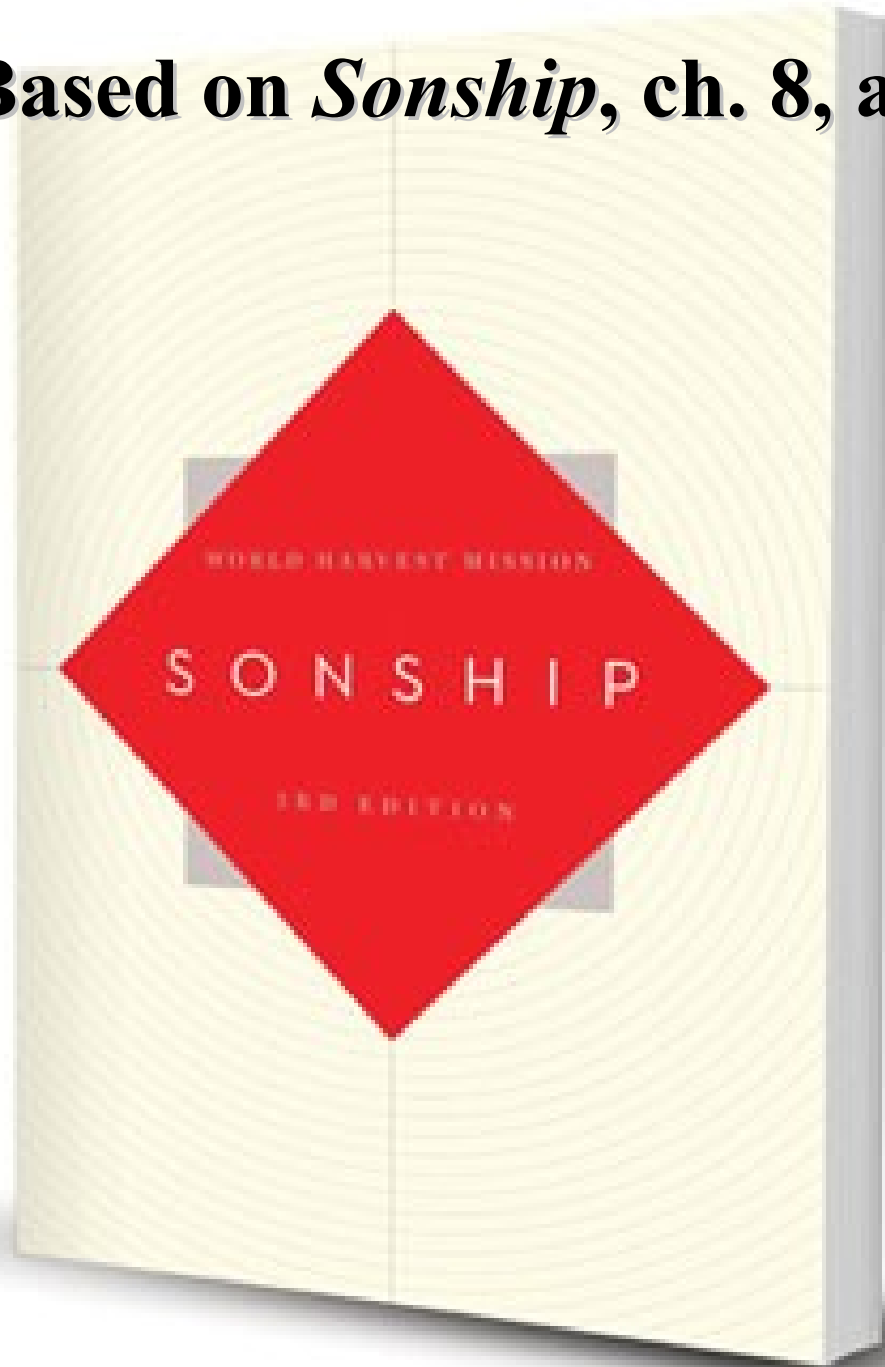


Gospel-Centered Living

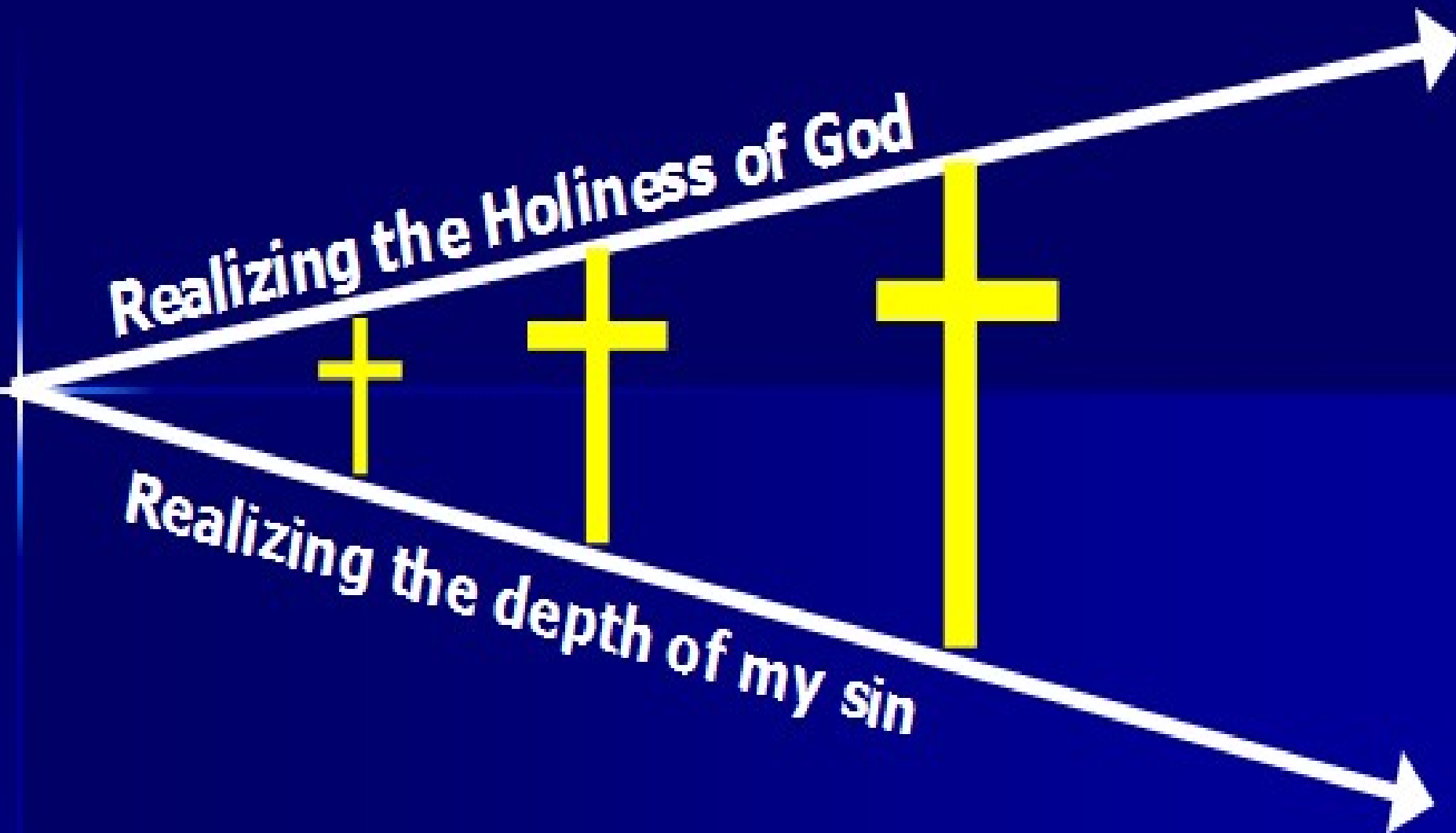


Repentance

Based on *Sonship*, ch. 8, and *The Gospel-Centered Life*, ch. 5



Review



What
do we
do
when
we
look
down?
Believe
the
Gospel
& ...

Faith + Repentance μετάνοξω

Mark 1:14-15 Jesus came to Galilee, preaching... "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (NKJ)

Acts 3:19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore, after having left the beginning message of the Anoin-ted One, let us be carried up to maturity, not striking down again for ourselves the foundation of repentance from dead works and of trust upon God

Revelation 2:4 Nevertheless I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

Calvin on Reforming the Church

“It is easy to use the words ‘faith’ and ‘repentance,’ but the things are most difficult to perform. Whoever therefore makes the worship of God consist in these by no means loosens the reins of discipline, but compels men to the course which they are most afraid to take. Of this we have most trustworthy proof from fact. Men will allow themselves to be constrained by numerous severe laws, to be tied to numerous laborious observances, and to bear a severe and heavy yoke; in short, there is no annoyance to which they will not submit, provided there be no mention of the heart.”

~Theological Treatises, p.193

Godly sorrow leads to repentance

2 Corinthians 7:8 For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. **9** Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. **10** For godly sorrow produces repentance *leading* to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. **11** For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, *what* clearing of yourselves, *what* indignation, *what* fear, *what* vehement desire, *what* zeal, *what* vindication! In all *things* you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter. **12** Therefore, although I wrote to you, *I did not do it* for the sake of him who had done the wrong, nor for the sake of him who suffered wrong, but that our care for you in the sight of God might appear to you. (NKJV)

Repentance in the O.T. נחם/שוב

Isa. 30:15 For thus says the Lord Jehovah, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning (שוב) and rest you will be saved; in quietness and in trust will be your strength.” But you were not willing. (NAW)

Jer. 8:6 I listened and heard, *But* they do not speak aright. No man repented (נחם) of his wickedness, Saying, 'What have I done?' Everyone turned (שוב) to his own course, As the horse rushes into the battle. (NKJV)

Psalms 51:4 Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done *this* evil in Your sight — That You may be found just when You speak, *And* blameless when You judge. **5** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. **6** Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden *part* You will make me to know wisdom. **7** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean... **9** Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. **10** Create in me a clean heart, O God...

False repentance in Hosea

Hosea 6:1 "Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us... 2 After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up... 3 He will come to us like the rain, Like the latter *and* former rain to the earth."

6:4 "O Ephraim, what shall I do to you? O Judah, what shall I do to you? For your faithfulness is like a morning cloud, And like the early dew it goes away... 6 For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, And the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. 7 But like men they transgressed the covenant; There they dealt treacherously with Me. 8 Gilead *is* a city of evildoers *And* defiled with blood... 7:2 They do not consider in their hearts *That* I remember all their wickedness... 4 They are all adulterers... 6 They prepare their heart like an oven... 13 they have fled from Me... Though I redeemed them, Yet they have spoken lies against Me. 14 They did not cry out to Me with their heart When they wailed..."

True repentance in Hosea

- Hosea 14:1** O Israel, return to the LORD your God, For you have stumbled because of your iniquity; **2** Take words with you, And return to the LORD. Say to Him, "Take away all iniquity; Receive *us* graciously, For we will offer the sacrifices [lit. calves] of our lips. **3** Assyria shall not save us, We will not ride on horses, Nor will we say anymore to the work of our hands, '*You are our gods.*' For in You the fatherless finds mercy."
- 4** I will heal their back-sliding, I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from him. **5** I will be like the dew to Israel; He shall grow like the lily, And lengthen his roots like Lebanon... **8** Ephraim *shall say*, 'What have I to do any-more with idols?' I have heard and observed him. I *am* like a green cypress tree; Your fruit is found in Me."
- 9** *Who is wise?* Let him understand these things. *Who is prudent?* Let him know them. For the ways of the LORD *are* right; The righteous walk in them... (NKJV)

Repentance is not...

“I can’t believe I just did that; I’ll try to do better.”

= I don’t believe God’s word that we are bad and hopeless in our sin.
We can fix ourselves; we don’t really need Jesus!

Corollary when you are offended:

“I’m surprised at you; I resent what you did!”

Quick-fix repentance: Apologizing for hurtful words or actions, but not for your underlying sinful attitude. “Sorry for hitting you.”

Non-repentance: “Sorry you feel that way about what I did.”

Excuse-making: “I can’t help it” – who I am/how I feel/how bad my day was

Minimizing: “It was just a joke/ a misunderstanding/ an unintentional mistake”

Confession starters

- I wanted other people to think well of me.
- I wanted to be more important than you.
- I wanted you to do what I wanted so I could stay in control of the situation.
- I did not want you to succeed because it would make me look bad.
- I wanted a stable social position, so I belittled you.
- I wanted to get you back for dissing me.
- I wanted to look like I know more than you.
- I wanted people to notice me.

Idolatry with a capital “I”!

Thomas Watson *Doctrine of Repentance*



“Repentance is a spiritual medicine with 6 special ingredients:”

1. SIGHT OF SIN

1 Kings 8:47 [Solomon prayed] ...when they come to themselves in the land where they were carried captive, and repent, and make supplication to You... saying, 'We have sinned and done wrong...'

Luke 15:17-18 "But when he [the prodigal] came to himself, he said, '...father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you..."

Zech. 11:17 Woe to the worthless shepherd, Who leaves the flock! A sword *shall be* against his arm And against his right eye... his right eye shall be totally blinded.

Acts 26:18 I now send you to open their eyes, *in order* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from* the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins.

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“Repentance is a spiritual medicine with 6 special ingredients:

1. SIGHT OF SIN
2. SORROW FOR SIN

Psalm 38:18 Because I will confess my iniquity; I will be sorry (KJV), in anguish (NKJV), troubled (NIV), stir up concern (NAW) over my sin.

Zech. 12:10 I will pour on the house of David... the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for *his* only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.

Mat. 5:4 Blessed *are* those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Luke 7:37-38 the sinful woman with the expensive perfume “wept... and began to wash His feet with her tears”

Luke 18:13 tax collector... beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'

2 Cor. 7:10 godly sorrow produces repentance to salvation

Thomas Watson *Doctrine of Repentance*



“Repentance is a spiritual medicine with 6 special ingredients:

1. SIGHT OF SIN
2. SORROW FOR SIN
3. CONFESSION OF SIN

Neh. 9:2 ...and they stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers

Hos. 5:15 “I will return again to My place Till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.”

2 Sam. 24:17 David, after census and God’s plague: “Surely I have sinned, and I have done wickedly...”

- Confession should be done “voluntarily... with compunction... sincerely... [confessing sins in] particular... [accepting full blame]... admitting all circumstances...vindicating God’s righteousness... resolving not to repeat sin”

Thomas Watson *Doctrine of Repentance*



“Repentance is a spiritual medicine with 6 special ingredients:

1. SIGHT OF SIN
2. SORROW FOR SIN
3. CONFESSION OF SIN
4. SHAME AND 5. HATRED FOR SIN

Ezek. 43:10 “Son of man, describe the temple to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities; and let them measure the pattern.”

Ezra 9:6 I said: “O my God, I am too ashamed and humiliated to lift up my face to You, my God; for our iniquities have risen higher than *our* heads, and our guilt has grown up to the heavens.”

Luke 15:21 “I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.”

Thomas Watson *Doctrine of Repentance*



1. SIGHT OF SIN
2. SORROW FOR SIN
3. CONFESSION OF SIN
4. SHAME AND 5. HATRED FOR SIN
5. TURNING FROM SIN

1Kings 8:33 When Your people... turn back to You and confess Your name, and pray...then hear and forgive...

2Chron. 7:14 if My people... humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear... and forgive...

Jer. 36:3 ...Judah will hear all... which I purpose to bring upon them, that everyone may turn from his evil way, that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

Ezek. 33:14-16 when... the wicked... turns from his sin and does what is lawful and right... None of his sins which he has committed shall be remembered against him... he shall surely live.

Thomas Watson *Doctrine of Repentance*



“

Repentance is a spiritual medicine with 6 special ingredients:

1. SIGHT OF SIN
2. SORROW FOR SIN
3. CONFESSION OF SIN
4. SHAME FOR SIN
5. HATRED FOR SIN
6. TURNING FROM SIN

”

IF ANY ONE IS LEFT OUT, IT LOSES ITS VIRTUE.

Thomas Watson continued:

“True Godly sorrow is...

1. **Inward** – Of the heart, not just the face
(Matt. 6:16, 1 Ki. 21:27, Acts 2:37)
2. **Ingenuous** – sorrow for the offence, the trespass, rather than for the punishment – the consequences. (Ps. 51:3 – “my sin [not the sword threatened] is ever before me”)
3. **Fiducial** – “Lord I believe” Mk. 9:24 “Spiritual sorrow will sink the heart if the pulley of faith doesn’t raise it”
4. **Great** (Zech. 12:11) – “more than for the loss of dear relations... weeping, baldness... sackcloth” (Isa. 22:12 cf. Jer. 22:10 & 16:6)
5. **In some cases joined with restitution** (Num. 5:7, Luke 19:8) – includes righting forefathers’ wrongs with the heirs of those wronged.
6. **Abiding** – habitual” (not like Peter Cottontail!)

