

Contrite Living

Many have come to know Christ with the wrong sorrow and that is NOT a good thing - 2 Cor 7:8-10 - 8 Even if I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it. Though I did regret it — I see that my letter hurt you, but only for a little while— 9 yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. 10 **Godly sorrow** brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but **worldly sorrow** brings death.

What we need to recognize is we are not getting the punishment we deserve - Ps 103:8-10 - 8 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. 9 He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; 10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Man keeps knowingly living wrong as if there are no repercussions - Rom 1:32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things **deserve death**, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

There are characteristics that should define EVERY Christian

Ps 51:17 The **sacrifices of God are** a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Isa 66:2 Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?" declares the Lord. "**This is the one I esteem**: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.

God has given clear instruction on how to live a true repentant life - 2 Peter 1:5-11 - 5 For this very reason, **MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ADD** to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; 6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; 7 and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. 8 For if you possess these qualities in INCREASING MEASURE, they will **KEEP YOU FROM BEING** ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But if anyone does not have them, he is nearsighted and blind, and **HAS FORGOTTEN that he has been cleansed from his past sins**. 10 Therefore, my brothers, **BE ALL THE MORE EAGER TO MAKE YOUR CALLING AND ELECTION SURE**. For **IF YOU DO THESE THINGS**, you will never fall, 11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Due to man taking God's grace for granted, some effects of God's wrath are displayed now - Rom 1:18-28 - 18 **The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven** against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because **God has made it plain to them**. 20 For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been **clearly seen**, being understood from what has been made, so that **men are without excuse**. 21 For although they knew God, they neither glorified him AS GOD nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

- **Knowing God But not glorifying Him AS God or truly thanking Him**
- **Worthless thinking and foolish hardened hearts**
- **Claiming to be wise but are fools in reality**
- **Instead of Glorifying God they worship and idolize creation**

The results of HIS wrath are as follows - Rom 1:24-28 24 **THEREFORE God gave them over** in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator — who is forever praised. Amen. 26 **BECAUSE OF THIS, God gave them over** to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. 27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. 28 Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he **gave them over to a depraved mind**, to do what ought not to be done.

- **GIVING THEM OVER TO:**
 - Living for sexual immortality
 - Following lies, instead of God's Word
 - Served the creation instead of the creator
 - Shameful desires of homosexuality
 - Corrupt minds to do wrong

How a repentant life should go

Not only ask for forgiveness but turn away from sin and turn to God

Acts 3:19 **Repent**, then, and **turn to God, SO THAT** your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

2 Tim 2:19 Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

If we have truly repented the evidence will show - Matt 3:8-10 - **8Produce fruit in keeping with repentance**. 9And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. 10 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and **EVERY TREE THAT DOES NOT PRODUCE GOOD FRUIT WILL BE CUT DOWN AND THROWN INTO THE FIRE**.

This means we must let go and truly let God - Matt 18:2-4 - 2 He called a little child and had him stand among them. 3 And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, **YOU WILL NEVER ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**. 4 Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

If we don't take this serious just remember we have been warned - Heb 10:26-31 - 26 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I WILL REPAY," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 **IT IS A DREADFUL THING TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE LIVING GOD.**