

**Zechariah 12:10**  
(KJV)

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, **the spirit of grace and of supplications**: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his **only son**, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his **firstborn**.”

**Genesis 22:16**  
(ESV)

16 and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, **your only son**,

**Jeremiah 6:26**  
(ESV)

26  
O daughter of my people, put on sackcloth, and roll in ashes;  
make **mourning as for an only son**,  
most bitter lamentation,  
for suddenly the destroyer  
will come upon us.

**Amos 8:10**  
(ESV)

10  
I will turn your feasts into mourning  
and all your songs into lamentation;  
I will bring sackcloth on every waist  
and baldness on every head;  
**I will make it like the mourning for an only son**  
and the end of it like a bitter day.

**John 1:14**  
(ESV)

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the **only Son** from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**1 John 4:9**  
(ESV)

9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his **only Son** into the world, so that we might live through him.

**Romans 8:29**  
(ESV)

29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his

Son, in order that he might be the **firstborn** among many brothers.

**Colossians 1:15**  
(ESV)

The Preeminence of Christ

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn of all creation**.

**Colossians 1:18**  
(ESV)

18 And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, **the firstborn from the dead**, that in everything he might be preeminent.

**Hebrews 1:6**  
(ESV)

6 And again, when he brings the **firstborn into the world**, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

**Hebrews 12:22-24**  
(ESV)

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,  
23 and to the **assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven**, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,  
24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

**Revelation 1:5**  
(ESV)

5 and from **Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead**, and the ruler of kings on earth.

**Chapter 15**  
**Of Repentance unto Life**

1. **Repentance unto life is an evangelical grace, the doctrine whereof is to be preached by every minister of the gospel, as well as that of faith in Christ.**

**Romans 2:4**

**(KJV)**

*Or despisest thou the riches of His goodness and forbearance and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

**repent (Oxford English Dictionary),**

To review one's actions and feel **contrition** or **regret** for something one has **done** or **omitted** to do; (esp. in religious contexts) to acknowledge the **sinfulness** of one's past action or conduct by showing sincere **remorse** and undertaking to **reform** in the future.

**Berkhof (Manual of Christian Doctrine)**

The conversion we have in mind here may be defined as that act of God whereby He causes the regenerated, in their conscious life, to turn to Him in faith and repentance.

**Repentance, the Negative Element of Conversion:**

Repentance looks to the past, and may be defined as that change wrought in the conscious life of the sinner by which he turns away from sin. It includes three elements, namely, (a) an **intellectual element**, in which the past life is viewed as a life of sin, involving personal guilt, defilement, and **helplessness**; (b) an **emotional element**, a sense of sorrow for sin as committed against a holy and just God; and (c) an **element of the will**, consisting in a change of purpose, an inward turning from sin and a disposition to seek pardon and cleansing.

**Saving faith, the Positive Element of Conversion:**

saving faith... This has its seat in the heart and is rooted in the regenerated life. Its seed is implanted in regeneration and gradually blossoms into an active faith. It may be defined as a positive conation [volition], wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, as to the truth of the gospel, and a hearty reliance on the promises of God in Christ.

**Confessio** (Augustine)

“...speech offered to God in dual acknowledgement of its **speaker's insufficiency** as speaker, and **God's all sufficiency** as giver of all speech, the one in whom as *logos* all human speech participates...”

**Acts 11:18**

**(ESV)**

*18 When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted **repentance that leads to life.**”*

**Luke 24:47**

**(KJV)**

*And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

**Mark 1:15**

**(KJV)**

*And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: **repent ye, and believe the gospel.***

**Acts 20:21**

**(KJV)**

*Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, **repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.***”

**2 Corinthians 4:3**

**(ESV)**

*3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.*

**Westminster Confession Chapter 15**

2. By it [*i.e.*, Repentance unto Life] a sinner, out of the sight and sense, not only of the danger, but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins, as contrary to the holy nature and righteous law of God, and upon the apprehension of his mercy in Christ to such as are penitent, so grieves for and hates his sins as to turn from them all unto God, purposing and endeavoring to walk with him in all the ways of his commandments.

SCAN'DAL, *noun* [Latin scandalum; Gr. In Greek, this word signifies a stumbling block, something against which a person impinges, or which causes him to fall.]. **Offense given by the faults of another.**

**1 Timothy 1:15-16**

**(ESV)**

15 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

16 But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

**Westminster Shorter Catechism**

**Question 24:** What is sin? **Answer:** Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, any law of God, given as a rule to the reasonable creature.

**Matthew 27:3-5**

**(ESV)**

*Judas Hangs Himself*

3 Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus[a] was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, 4 saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." 5 And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.

**Psalms 51:4**

**(KJV)**

Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

**Psalms 119:128**

**(KJV)**

Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.

**Jeremiah 31:18-19**

**(KJV)**

I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the LORD my God. 19 Surely after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

**Ezekiel 18:30-31**

**(KJV)**

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. 31 Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

**Ezekiel 36:31**

**(KJV)**

Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.

**Joel 2:12-13**

**(KJV)**

Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: 13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

**Amos 5:15**

**(KJV)**

**Hate the evil, and love the good,** and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

**2 Corinthians 7:10**

**(ESV)**

10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

**Psalms 119:6, 59, 106**

**(KJV)**

Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments... 59 I thought on my ways, and turned my feet unto thy testimonies... 106 I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.

**Mark 7:24-30**

**(ESV)**

*The Syrophenician Woman's Faith*

*24 And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. 25 But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. 26 Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27 And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." 28 But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." 29 And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." 30 And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.*