

The Product of Biblical Repentance

2 Corinthians 7:11

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.

Remember: The prerequisite for biblical repentance is godly sorrow.

1. Diligence (Carefulness)

- External Action

This answers the question, “What am I doing (and willing to do) to make sure I do not commit this sin again?”

2. Defense (Clearing of yourselves—eagerness to prove one’s present innocence)

- External Action

This answers the question, “What am I doing (or willing to do) to regain a righteous testimony?”

3. Displeasure (Indignation)

- Internal Attitude

This answers the question, “How much does my sin really bother me?”

4. Dread (Fear)

- Internal Attitude

This answers the question, “Do I fear sin enough that I will be aware of its danger at all times?”

5. Desire (Vehement desire)

- Internal Attitude

This answers the question, “How badly do I want to be free from sin and right with the Lord?”

6. Dedication (Zeal)

- Internal Attitude

This answers the question, “Am I truly dedicated to carry on with and implement the desire to rid my life of sin?”

7. Discipline (Vindication)

- External Action

This answers the question, “What am I willing to do to make amends or obtain justice for the sin committed?”