

Hebrews 10:19-39

(ESV)

The Full Assurance of Faith

19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

26 For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries. 28 Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses. 29 How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

32 But recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, 33 sometimes being publicly exposed to reproach and affliction, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. 34 For you had compassion on those in prison, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one. 35 Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. 36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. 37 For,

*"Yet a little while,
and the coming one will come and will not delay;*

38

*but my righteous one shall live by faith,
and if he shrinks back,
my soul has no pleasure in him."*

39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

John Owen on the gifts of the Holy Spirit:

“It is trade alone that increaseth talents, and exercise in a way of duty that improveth gifts. Without this they will first wither and then perish. And by a neglect hereof are they lost every day, in some partially, in some totally, and in some to a contempt, hatred, and blasphemy of what themselves had received.”

Preface to *Communion with God* by John Owen:

“...spiritual savour and relish...will yield to them whose hearts are not so filled with other things as to render the sweet things of the gospel bitter to them.”

Westminster Shorter Catechism
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.**

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...”

From Martin Luther’s 95 theses:

1. When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, “Repent” (Mt 4:17), he willed the

entire life of believers to be one of repentance.

4. The penalty of sin remains as long as the hatred of self (that is, true inner repentance), namely till our entrance into the kingdom of heaven.

Psalm 119:128

(KJV)

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

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.

Westminster Short Catechism
Question 15
Unto Repentance Unto Life

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.

3. Although repentance be not to be rested in as any satisfaction for sin, or any cause of the pardon thereof, which is the act of God’s free grace in Christ; yet is it of such

necessity to all sinners that none may expect pardon without it.

4. As there is no sin so small but it deserves damnation, so there is no sin so great that it can bring damnation upon those who truly repent.

5. Men ought not to content themselves with a general repentance, but it is every man's duty to endeavor to repent of his particular sins particularly.

6. As every man is bound to make private confession of his sins to God, praying for the pardon thereof, upon which, and the forsaking of them, he shall find mercy; so he that scandalizeth his brother, or the Church of Christ, ought to be willing, by a private or public confession and sorrow for his sin, to declare his repentance to those that are offended, who are thereupon to be reconciled to him, and in love to receive him.

John Murray (1898-1975, Scottish; taught at Princeton and helped found Westminster Theological Seminary) in *Redemption — Accomplished and Applied* (p. 134):

Faith is “a whole-souled movement of self-commitment to Christ for salvation from sin and its consequences...” which has three components: “knowledge, conviction and trust” (p. 133-140).

Matthew W. Bates, an early New Testament and language scholar (Quincy University, Illinois) translates the Greek word used for “faith” in the New Testament (*pistis*) as “allegiance.”

Romans 1:1-5
(ESV)

Greeting

*1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus,
called to be an apostle,*

set apart for the gospel of God,

2 which he promised beforehand

through his prophets in the holy Scriptures,

3 concerning his Son,

*who was descended from David according to
the flesh*

*4 and was declared to be the Son of God in
power*

according to the Spirit of holiness

*by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus
Christ our Lord,*

*5 through whom we have received grace and
apostleship*

to bring about the obedience of faith

*for the sake of his name among all the
nations,*

Acts 3:19-21
(ESV)

*19 Repent therefore, and turn back, that your
sins may be blotted out, 20 that times of
refreshing may come from the presence of the
Lord, and that he may send the Christ
appointed for you, Jesus, 21 whom heaven*

Dusty Corners of the Westminster Standards
Repentance Unto Life Lesson 3
Handout

must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

Acts 2:36

(ESV)

36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Matthew 4:17

(ESV)

17 From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”