

## **WHAT KIND OF REPENTANCE IS REQUIRED BEFORE REGENERATION IS GRANTED TO A PERSON?**

**A person should allow conviction by the Spirit of personal sin, the need for righteousness, and the fact of judgment to come.**

**Conviction by the Spirit should lead to a willingness to let the Spirit have His way in the heart of a person. This is a personal choice of every person. Some cooperate. Some do not.**

**When a person does battle against the conviction of the Spirit and prefers to go his own way of self-indulgence and willful sin, that person needs to repent and yield himself to the work of the Spirit.**

**A repentant heart is one that is grieved over sin, receptive to Spirit work in his heart, and lets the Spirit bring him to a saving knowledge of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection for personal sin removal. A repentant heart sincerely desires to come out of bondage to sin and experience the good fruits of God in a personal relationship with Him. True repentance leads to growth in repentance.**

**A repentant heart, faith in Jesus for sin removal, and willingness for obedience to sin removal, is the condition by which God grants regeneration. The condition is a saving faith which yields righteousness by the power of the Spirit in the regenerated believer.**

**Regeneration guarantees eternal security of the believer. God promises to complete the work He began.**

**In this process, sin is not covered up, the old man died with Christ, the new man is born from above, the Spirit indwells the new born believer, and sin is continually purged from the conscience either through compliance of obedience or through the disciplinary hand of God leading to obedience.**

**Hebrews 9:14; 12:5-11    Romans 6:4-6    Colossians 2:13-15    Romans 12:1,2    2 Cor. 5:17**

**Regeneration was instantaneous as was justification.**

**The process of sanctification begins at regeneration and continues until separation from the flesh.**

**Many false teachings about salvation do not include the works of faith, the purging of sin from the conscience, the disciplinary work of God, sin removal, being holy, and obedience to Christ's commands. Christ does not save us so that we can continue on in our sins. Jesus takes away sin as we grow in repentance. Repentance and faith each start out like that tiny mustard seed. True faith is evident by our growth in repentance and a changed life.**

## **HUMANITY INHERITS A NATURE THAT IS INCLINED TOWARD SIN**

**Adam disobeyed God plunging all creation into a condition of sin and death. We inherit a nature and environment inclined toward sin. Every person who is accountable for moral actions will sin and be guilty before God.**

**All accountable people have the ability to make moral choices and the ability to respond to and cooperate with the Holy Spirit in His leading to truth. Rejection of the work of the Spirit brings the wrath of God and condemnation upon the unbeliever. Personal sin brings an ever-worsening selfishness and destructiveness.**

**Any person who cooperates with the Spirit and responds to the Gospel with saving faith is born again through the power of the Spirit. New birth produces a new creation in Christ having eternal life and is instantaneous.**

**Saving faith requires the recognition of personal sin, turning to God for sin removal, and trusting in Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection for a new life changing position and experience of righteousness.**

**The new born believer has joined Christ in death and resurrection to new life. Being “newborn” and declared righteous, the believer is out from under the wrath of God, out from under the penalty for sin, and out from under condemnation. Total sin removal is promised to the believer in that what God has begun, He will complete. God has changed and is changing the believer.**

**The uncooperative and unbelieving sinner who dies in his sin, is condemned to an eternal separation from God in which he is eternally in torment due to his choice of wanting God to leave him alone.**