

“THIS I KNOW!”

Part 4: “Faith and Repentance: The Fruit of New Life!”



John 6:25-44; Acts 2:37-31, 10:44-48, 11:1-18, 13:42-48; Ephesians 2:8-10; Galatians 2:20; II Corinthians 7:10; II Timothy 2:25

Introduction: We who by God’s grace are disciples of Jesus Christ are not like other people BECAUSE the Spirit of God lives within us!

II Corinthians 4:16-18: “*Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day ...*” (vs. 16).

Heidelberg Catechism #1: “*My only comfort ... is that I ... am not my own but belong to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ!*”

All who are born again of the Spirit of God will repent and believe in Jesus Christ and be saved!

In each of those whom God chooses, the Spirit produces new life that ALWAYS produces true faith and repentance!

I. Conversion begins with conviction ...

Acts 2:37-41: “... they were cut to the heart” (vs. 37).

The truth of God’s Word convicts the souls of those who are born again by the Spirit.

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

Isaiah 6:5: “*Woe is me! For I am lost ... for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!*”

John 6:35-37, 44: “*No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him*” (vs. 44).

The message of the Gospel must begin with an explanation of sin.

II. Conversion leads to repentance ...

The awareness of God’s holiness and of His love in Christ brings about the desire to repent in those who are born again.

II Corinthians 7:10: “*For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.*”

The Spirit’s work of regeneration produces true repentance and faith and establishes a relationship with the Father through Jesus Christ that cannot be separated.

Acts 10:44-45, 11:17-18: “*And they glorified God saying, ‘Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life’*” (11:18).

The old nature cannot and will not repent and believe, but the new nature cannot and will not do otherwise!!

Acts 13:42-48: “... and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed” (vs. 48).

III. Conversion results in faith ...

The WILL that was in bondage is NOW FREE and responds to the call of the Gospel and proclaims, “*I BELIEVE!*”

Ephesians 2:8-10: “*For by grace have you been saved through faith. And THIS ... is the GIFT of God ...*” (vs. 8).

John 6:29, 37-44: “*ALL that the Father gives me WILL come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast away!*” (vs. 37).

Galatians 2:20: “*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God.*”

Ephesians 1:3-6: “... even as He chose us in Him (Christ) before the foundation of the world ... according to the purpose of HIS will ...”

TRUE faith and TRUE repentance are produced in the lives of those who have been born again by the sovereign choice of a merciful and gracious God!