

*[Follow up question] But since God grants repentance and not through any of our own strength, why does he only choose some? And will you be saved after repenting once or over and over again if you're stuck in a cycle?*

Men are saved by grace through faith (Eph 2:8-9). When one has a personal relationship with the Lord (Jn 5:24), he seeks to live a life pleasing to him (Col 1:10, 1 Jn 4:19).

John Calvin said, "Faith alone saves. But the faith that saves is not alone." Men are: justified, sanctified and one day will be glorified. Christians do not live habitually sin because it is incompatible with the desires of the Holy Spirit who lives in him (1 Jn 3:9). Men are known (1 Jn 3:10) by their fruits (Mt 7:16).

God chooses all to be saved (Jn 3:16, 6:65, Ac 17:27, 2 Pe 3:9). One must choose him back (Jn 3:29) like in a marriage proposal. A man asks a woman, "Will you marry me?" and she responds, "Yes." One must respond to the wooing of the Holy Spirit (Is 32:15, Jn 16:8-11). It is unforgivable to *not* to respond. All sin can be forgiven except for the sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit (Mt 12:31).

J. Vernon McGee wrote:

...Repentance is a change of mind. As far as I can tell, the only repentance God asks of the lost is in the word *believe*. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ! What happens when one believes? There is a change of mind. There is a turning from something to Someone...

...However, God does emphasize repentance for the believer if he is going in the wrong direction, walking in sin. For him there is to be a turning, a repentance. A lot of people simply shed tears, which may not indicate true repentance. That kind of sorrow is the sorrow of the world and works death. True repentance is godly sorrow, which "worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of"—that is, repentance without regret.<sup>1</sup>

Each should determine whether his sorrow is worldly or godly (1 Co 7:10).

The bride has made herself ready (1 Jn 3:3, Re 19:7) and she will go in the rapture (Re 3:10).

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<sup>1</sup> McGee, J. V. (1991). [\*Thru the Bible commentary: The Epistles \(2 Corinthians\)\*](#) (electronic ed., Vol. 45, pp. 94-95). Thomas Nelson.