

the vineyard.' And he answered and said, 'I will, sir;' and he did not go. And he came to the second and said the same thing. But he answered and said, 'I will not;' yet he afterward regretted it and went. Which of the two did the will of his father? They said, 'The latter.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I say to you that the tax-gatherers and harlots will get into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax-gatherers and harlots did believe him; and you, seeing this, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him.' "

Matthew 27:3 -- "Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders."

Luke 18:18-23 -- "And a certain ruler questioned Him, saying, 'Good Teacher, what shall I do to obtain eternal life?' And Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments, 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not bear false witness, honor your father and mother.' And he said, 'All these things I have kept from my youth.' And when Jesus heard this, He said to him, 'One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess, and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.' But when he heard these things, he became very sad; for he was extremely rich."

II Corinthians 7: 8-10 -- "For though I caused you sorrow by my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it, -- for I see that that letter caused you sorrow, though only for a while -- I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, in order that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation; but the sorrow of the world produces death."

c. A volitional element

Repentance involves a change of purpose -- an inward turning from sin, and a disposition to seek pardon and cleansing. This element includes the two preceding elements, and is therefore the most important aspect of repentance.

This element may be seen in the following Scriptures:

Psalm 51:7, 10 -- "Purify me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a steadfast spirit within me."

Luke 19:5-9 -- "And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, 'Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must