

Q 76. What is repentance unto life?

A Repentance unto life is a saving grace,¹ wrought in the heart of a sinner by the Spirit² and Word of God,³ whereby, out of the sight and sense, not only of the danger,⁴ but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins,⁵ and upon the apprehension of God's mercy in Christ to such as are penitent,⁶ he so grieves for⁷ and hates his sins,⁸ as that he turns from them all to God,⁹ purposing and endeavoring constantly to walk with him in all the ways of new obedience.¹⁰

1. 2 Tim. 2:25; Acts 11:18. 2. Zech. 12:10. 3. Acts 11:18, 20–21. 4. Ezek. 18:28, 30, 32; Luke 15:17–18; Hos. 2:6–7. 5. Ezek. 36:31; Isa. 30:22; Phil. 3:7–8. 6. Joel 2:12–13; Ps. 51:1–4; Luke 15:7, 10; Acts 2:37. 7. Jer. 31:18–19; Ps. 32:5. 8. 2 Cor. 7:11. 9. Luke 1:16–17; 1 Thess. 1:9; Acts 26:18; Ezek. 14:6; 1 Kings 8:47–48. 10. 2 Chron. 7:14; Ps. 119:57–64; Matt. 3:8; 2 Cor. 7:10; Luke 1:6.

Q 77. Wherein do justification and sanctification differ?

A Although sanctification be inseparably joined with justification,¹ yet they differ, in that God in justification imputeth the righteousness of Christ;² in sanctification his Spirit infuseth grace, and enableth to the exercise thereof;³ in the former, sin is pardoned;⁴ in the other, it is subdued:⁵ the one doth equally free all believers from the revenging wrath of God, and that perfectly in this life, that they never fall into condemnation;⁶ the other is neither equal in all,⁷ nor in this life perfect in any,⁸ but growing up to perfection.⁹

1. 1 Cor. 6:11; 1 Cor. 1:30. 2. Rom. 4:6, 8. 3. Ezek. 36:27; Heb. 9:13–14. 4. Rom. 3:24–25. 5. Rom. 6:6, 14. 6. Rom. 8:33–34. 7. 1 John 2:12–14; Heb. 5:12–14. 8. 1 John 1:8, 10. 9. 2 Cor. 7:1; Phil. 3:12–14.

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