

Jennifer Greenberg, who had been abused by her father said:

Often I've been told by my abuser, "If you don't forgive me, God won't forgive you." But this threatening posture indicates insincere repentance. It's unloving, manipulative, and implies the offender doesn't accept or comprehend the gravity of what they've done.

As an abuser, they loved their sin more than they loved you. As a repentant sinner, they should love you more than their sin and pride.

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Repentance is to think differently about something. A change in how we think about something which then causes us to act differently.

Eric Ferris
The Lenten Experience

The Reformation Movement surfaced when Martin Luther nailed the "Ninety-five Theses" to the Church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

The very first of the theses stated that "Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ . . . willed the entire life of believers to be one of <u>repentance</u>."

Now we know that God's judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So when you, a mere man, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God's judgment? Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance?

Romans 4:2-4

The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise to return, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to perish, so he is giving more time for everyone to repent. But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief.

2 Peter 3:9-10