

The most difficult part of conversion is that of repentance. Faith can be difficult but with the overwhelming amount of evidence available, it is only the fool that says there is no God (Psa. 14:1). Confession is made with the mouth (Rom. 10:9-10), and the Lord knows that everyone loves to talk! Baptism is not difficult because it is another who is actually doing the work. When you are baptized you participate in a passive way, while another immerses you into Christ (Rom. 6:3-4).

Repentance is the change of mind and heart that results in a change of life. It is where we must decide to actively participate in the denial of self and the destruction of pride. And those two things are most difficult. Repentance is not just a change so that you think that when you sin you will not be caught. It is a complete metamorphosis that leaves no regret.

Look again at 2Cor. 7:10; "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" (NASB). To live without regret as to one's former manner of life means a complete change from the inside out that no longer has any desire or pleasure in sin.

Every day we must work on living a life of repentance of our past works, see Ac. 26:20. Turning away from sin may be difficult, but turning towards God will make all the difference!

-gls