

AUGUST 31

**“THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
REGRET AND REPENTANCE. ONLY
ONE WILL SAVE YOUR SOUL.”**

READ

Luke 14:25-33

In the American church, we think regret is repentance. We think that conviction is conversion. Nothing could be further from the truth. You can feel regret, but regret won't save your soul. You have to take that regret to Jesus. You have to kneel at His feet and cry out for mercy. You have to look into the face of the Father, by the Spirit, and say, “I wish I'd never done it. I'm sorry. I've hurt You. I've hurt myself, those around me. Forgive me.” The Father could stand up in wrath, with fire in His eyes, were it not for His Son stepping between us and shedding His blood on the cross. The Father's wrath is now at peace. The sinner becomes His child. Repentance is not a feeling, it's an action — a change of mind, a change of behavior. It's a conversion. You're changed. You discontinue doing what you were doing. You become a drastic follower of the Lord. You love Him more than anything else. A.W. Tozer said, “We have a whole new generation of Christians who have come up believing it is possible to accept Christ without forsaking the world.” It isn't.

PRAY

Lord, I've sung the song many times, “I'd rather have Jesus.” From the depths of my heart, may it be my prayer. I'd rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today.

From June 8, 2003