

# Dependence

by Major W. Ian Thomas

---

*True repentance involves stepping out of independence and into dependence on God.*

**Scripture:** Acts 3:19, Romans 14:23, 2 Corinthians 3:17, Galatians 5:16, 1 John 3:4

**Topics:** "Spiritual Dependence", "Repentance"

---

## Description

Major W. Ian Thomas emphasizes the contrast between living for oneself, which leads to walking in the flesh and being under the influence of the devil, versus living for Christ, which results in walking in the Spirit and being under God's dominion. He highlights that the difference lies not just in actions but in the underlying principles that govern behavior, with independence from God being at the root of sin. Repentance, therefore, involves shifting from independence to dependence on God, and the extent of repentance is reflected in the level of dependence on Him.

---

## Transcript

To live "to and for yourself" is to "walk after the flesh"!

To live "to and for Christ" is to "walk after the Spirit"!

These are the two principles of human behavior. It is not just a matter of degree, it is a matter of kind; to be dominated by the "flesh" is to be dominated by the devil; and to be dominated by the Spirit is to be dominated by God.

Two men doing identically the same thing may at the same time, by their identical act, be demonstrating two different principles of behavior, which are diametrically opposed to each other.

What is the principle that governs your behavior?

I am not asking you the nature of your behavior; I am asking you the principle from which it springs!

You will remember that we have seen sin defined in the Bible as independence: "whatsoever is not of faith is sin" (Romans 14:23), an attitude of "lawlessness" (1 John 3:4); what then does repentance involve? It involves stepping out of independence back into dependence - and the measure of your repentance will be the measure of your dependence!

Every area of your life, in which you have not learned to be dependent, is an area of your life in which you have not as yet repented.

---

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/major-w-ian-thomas/dependence/>

# *Grow in Your Walk with Christ*

---

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

**[www.sermonindex.net](http://www.sermonindex.net)**