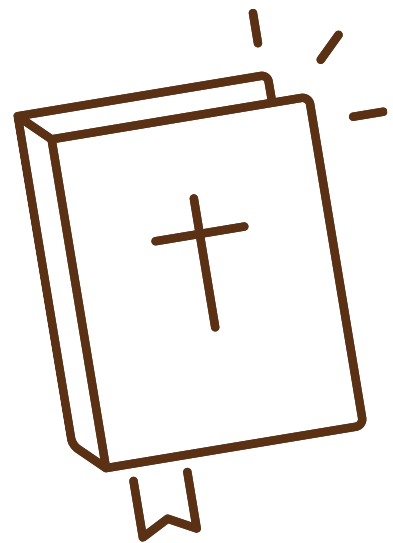


That God May Grant Them Repentance?

Study Guide by
Michael Ray Garvin





Bible Verse

25 correcting opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant that they will repent and come to know the truth 26 and that they may escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:25-26 NRSV

Can Anyone Repent?

30 While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now **he commands all people everywhere to repent,**

Acts 17:30 NRSV

9 The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but **all to come to repentance.**

2 Peter 3:9 NRSV



What is The Context?

14 Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. 15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth. 16 Avoid profane chatter, for it will lead people into more and more impiety, 17 and their talk will spread like gangrene. **Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, 18 who have swerved from the truth, saying resurrection has already occurred. **They are upsetting the faith of some.****

2 Timothy 2:14-18 NRSV

Paul is talking about people who repented and were in the truth, then swerved or fell away from the truth.

What is The Context? Part 2

22 Shun youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. 23 **Have nothing to do with stupid and senseless controversies;** you know that they breed quarrels. 24 And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kindly to everyone, an apt teacher, patient, 25 correcting opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant that they will repent and come to know the truth 26 and that they may escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

2 Timothy 2:22-26 NRSV

Paul is talking about God granting them a second repentance to those who swerved or fell from the truth.

A Clearer Understanding

45 ¶ Now after he had examined all their rods, he said unto me I told thee that this tree loved life: thou seest how many have repented, and attained unto salvation. Sir, said I, I see it.

46 That thou mightest know, saith he, that the goodness and mercy of the Lord is great, and to be had in honour; who gave his spirit to them that were found worthy of repentance.

47 I answered, Sir, **why then did not all of them repent?** He replied, **Those whose minds the Lord foresaw would be pure, and that they would serve him with all their hearts, to them he gave repentance.**

48 But for those whose deceit and wickedness he beheld, and **perceived that they would not truly return unto him**; to them he denied any return unto repentance, lest they should again blaspheme his law with wicked words.

Shepherd of Hermas Book 3 Chapter 8

Ending Message

It is best to take our time and do a deep study before jumping to conclusions and believing doctrines that cause the bible to contradict itself. We see that context is important.

Also, early Christian writings like the Shepherd of Hermas are beneficial to us.

I see and understand why the Shepherd of Hermas was **considered canon by some early Christians** and was read throughout the churches for 3 centuries. It brought a clearer understanding to what Paul said in 2 Timothy 2. We know that Paul knew of Hermas as he is mentioned in Romans 16:14.



Shepherd of Hermas

Found In 3 New Testament Manuscripts

Codex Sinaiticus (Oldest Bible Manuscript 4th Century)

Codex Claromantanus (Bible Manuscript 6th Century)

Codex Athous (Bible Manuscript 15th Century)

Irenaeus and Clement of Alexandria
believed it was canon.