

ON  
RE P E N T A N C E,  
AND  
THE REMISSION OF SINS,  
REGENERATION,  
AND  
MERIT.

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THE  
**DOCTRINE**  
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&c. &c.

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OF REPENTANCE AND THE REMISSION OF SINS.

HE who would be saved must confess his sins, and do the work of repentance.

*To confess sins* is to know evils, to perceive them in one's own heart, to charge oneself with their guilt, and to condemn oneself on account of them. When this is done as in the presence of God, it constitutes the confession of sins.

*To perform the work of repentance*, is to abstain from sins after they have been confessed, and supplication has been made for their remission, from humility of heart; and to live in newness of life, according to the precepts of charity and faith.

The man who makes only a general acknowledgment that he is a sinner, charging himself as guilty of all evils, and yet does not explore himself, that is, does not really see his own sins, may, indeed, make confession, but not the confession of repentance; for such a person, because he does not know his own evils, lives in the practice of them afterwards, just as he had done before.

He who lives in the practice of charity and faith, performs the work of repentance daily; he reflects on the evils that adhere to him, acknowledges them, guards against them, and supplicates the Lord for aid to resist them. For man, of himself, continually lapses into evil, but is continually raised by the Lord, and led to good. Such is the case with those who are in good: but they