The Hebrew word for repentance is “teshuvah”, meaning, to return; from a primitive root meaning, to turn back.

This understanding is seen in the Messianic Writings where we have a ‘Ministry of Reconciliation’ (2Cor 5:18-19) and are waiting for Him to ‘restore’ the Kingdom. (Mat 17:11 and Acts 1:6). The concept of “teshuvah” is one of returning all creation back to the Creator as things were originally intended.

The Greek/Roman idea of repentance (G3341-‘metanoia’: From G3340; [subjectively] compunction [for guilt, including reformation]; by implication reversal [of {another’s} decision]) is more a **changing of one’s mind** because of some outside force or inner emotion and does not in and of itself refer to a ‘return’ to YHWH.

It is important to remember that YHWH is the Creator of all things and it is to Him that all worship and praise belong. Furthermore, as His creation, all creatures owe Him and Him alone their complete allegiance and fidelity. Thus, the idea of repentance must ALWAYS refer to RETURNING to YHWH.

To return to Him has two parts, first we must believe in the Sacrifice (Yahushua) by which He justified us from the death penalty we owed for past disobedience and the disobedience of our first father, Adam.

Second, we must ‘turn away’ from our old way of thinking and living and ‘return’ to the standard of thinking and living required by Him for all His People, both native born and stranger (Gentile – Numbers 15:15-16 and Leviticus 19:34-35 [see also: Eph 2:8-19; Rom 11:1-24; Gal 3:26-29]), i.e. the Torah/Law as it was given at Mt. Sinai through Moses to Yisra’el, without additions or subtractions (Deut 4:2; 12:32; Ecc 3:14; Pro 30:6 and Rev 22:18-19).

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*