

WHEN THOU ART CONVERTED

Lk 22:31-34

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Many people today in same shoes as Peter was, in our text
- B. Think they are converted but in many cases they are not
- C. Peter said he was ready to follow Christ even to death but later denied him with an oath
- D. Notice some things which happen when one is converted

DISCUSSION:

I. **WHEN CONVERTED, PEOPLE ARE CHANGED.**

- A. In conversion the mind is changed by faith
 - 1. Faith is produced by hearing Rom 10:17
 - 2. Word produced a change on Pentecost Acts 2:36-38
 - a. Hostility turned to humility
 - b. Anger to anxiety
 - c. Wrath to willingness to do God's will
 - 3. Minds were changed by believing what Peter said
- B. In conversion one's practice is changed by repentance
 - 1. Repentance: change of mind brought about by godly sorrow, leading to change in conduct 2Cor 7:10
 - 2. Son repented and went Matt 21:28,29
 - 3. In repentance we change from doing our will to doing the will of God
- C. In conversion one's state is changed by baptism
 - 1. Our mind may be changed, practice may be changed but still in the state of sin Rom 3:23
 - 2. Baptized for the remission of sins Acts 2:38
 - 3. Baptized into Christ; then made free from sin Rom 6:3,17,18
 - 4. Obedience changes state from guilty to innocent

II. **WHEN CONVERTED, PEOPLE ARE CONSTANT IN THE LORD'S SERVICE (consistent-faithful-regular)**

- A. Constantly study God's word Acts 17:11
 - 1. As a baby they desire 1Pet 2:2
 - 2. Work diligently to be approved 2Tim 2:15
- B. Constantly worship - don't forsake assemblies Heb 10:25 Psa 122:1
 - 1. Observe Lord's Supper regularly 1Cor 11:26; Acts 20:7; Acts 2:42
 - 2. Sing Eph 5:19; Col 3:16; Pray Acts 2:42; 1Thess 5:17
 - 3. Give regularly 1Cor 16:1,2; 2Cor 9:6,7
- C. Constantly at work for the Lord
 - 1. Jesus worked Jhn 9:4 we follow example 1Pet 2:21
 - 2. Be not weary in well doing Gal 6:9,10

- 3. Much that needs to be done: classes to be taught sick to be visited; weak to be encouraged; building and grounds taken care of; lost to be saved
- 4. Note: Israel had a mind to work Neh 4:6

III. **WHEN CONVERTED, PEOPLE ARE CHARGED TO STRENGTHEN THE BRETHREN**

- A. Jesus charged Peter to do this Lk 22:32
 - 1. Peter's example of faith and courage Acts 5:28,29
 - 2. Peter preached to ones who crucified Jesus Acts 2
- B. Partial conversion is a tragedy
 - 1. Mind not fully changed by faith
 - 2. Practice not fully changed in repentance
 - 3. State has not been changed thru baptism
 - 4. Or one is not constant in service to Lord
- C. This illustrated Matt 12:43-45 - When partially converted we get out the bad, but never fill our lives with good
- D. A person partially converted will not be able to strengthen the weak brethren.

V. **WHEN CONVERTED, PEOPLE ARE CONTENT**

- A. In material realm Lk 3:14; 1Tim 6:8; Heb 13:5
 - 1. Doesn't mean we shouldn't better ourselves when legally, morally, ethically, and spiritually possible
 - 2. Simply means we are not to be money hungry (i.e. covetous)
- B. Be willing to put up with our lot in life when we can't change it Phil 4:11
- C. As parents tell children: "whatever you do just be a Christian" serve the Lord on His terms Josh 7:7

CONCLUSION:

- A. When a person is truly converted he/she will be:
 - 1. Changed by the Gospel in all three areas: faith changed their mind; repentance their practice and baptism their state of their lives
 - 2. These will then be constant in their service to the Lord: Study - Worship - Work
 - 3. These will be a source of strength and encouragement to their brethren
- B. It is not enough to be only changed or constant we must be a source of strength for others demonstrating our contentment in doing so.
- C. True conversion exhibits all of these attributes as with Peter when he was converted