

6 “True Conversion”

The miracle of converting the mind from physical to Spiritual thinking is the most wonderful event in a person's life. It is much greater than the healing of a physical ailment of the body. Physical healing allows you to live a little longer on this earth. True conversion heals the mind of the insanity of physical thoughts. It allows you to live forever in the Kingdom of God! Jesus made the complete conversion from a human to being a Priest after the “Order of Melchisedec.” This chapter is about our process of making that same conversion of the mind. The subject of true conversion has been misunderstood and misrepresented by false religious teachings for centuries. There are two major beliefs among the majority of Christian organizations. The first belief is that Jesus was sent to this earth to be crucified for our sins because it is impossible for us to keep the Father's commandments. The conclusion from this group is that Jesus paid the price for our sins therefore the keeping of the commandments are no longer required. The other group believes that Jesus was sent to this earth to be crucified for our sins because it is impossible for us to keep the Father's commandments perfectly. The conclusion from this group is that the commandments are still required but Jesus paid the price therefore we are only required to give the keeping of the commandments our best shot. Both of these views are absolutely wrong. The Father demands perfection from everyone as we follow in Jesus' footsteps. We need to keep in mind from the previous chapters that God's plan for salvation is perfect. It is designed for us to be winners not losers! If we follow the plan God designed, the way will be shown that leads to perfection. God expects everyone He calls to walk in the footsteps of Jesus (I Pet. 2:21)! This requires a

major shift in the way we think and act. We naturally have a mind that is rebellious to God's laws (Rom. 8:7). It is that rebellious nature which is patterned after the very mind of Satan's that must be rooted out. The total replacement of that nature by the "fruit of the Spirit" constitutes a true conversion.

Most inhabitants of the earth have been oblivious to God's plan of salvation. Their existence seems to be consumed in surviving from day to day. Even those who embrace the Christian faith seem to be unsure about the future God has in store for each of us personally. Many have legitimate questions on the mystery of our existence on this planet. Religious leaders are usually just as perplexed when confronted with questions about God's plan as anyone. They merely repeat what they were falsely taught in seminaries or their religious traditions. Their usual answer when addressed with questions of God's purpose is that we just have to go on faith. Faith does play a major role in our life because without faith it is impossible to please God (James 2:20-26). Sometimes faith is the only thing that keeps us going. However, God doesn't leave us totally without answers to those questions. We have seen from the previous chapters that there is order in what God is doing. We don't have to be like a ship without a sail. Our life does not have to be tossed to and fro by theories of men in regard to our salvation (Eph. 4:14). God doesn't want us drifting through life without any knowledge of a purpose in our lives.

What is your primary goal in this life? Perhaps, it is preparing for your future retirement or the amassing of material positions on this earth. God tells us that those physical pursuits will mean absolutely nothing if we lose out on eternal life (Mark 8:36). A carnal

mind is consumed with the pursuits of the flesh. A Godly mind is consumed with the pursuits of the Spirit. The cares of this physical world can greatly interfere with your eternal destiny in God's Kingdom. God requires perfect submission from all of His children (Mat. 5:48). He tells us that it is our mission in this life to become perfect (Eph. 4:13, Heb. 2:10, Heb. 5:9, Heb. 11:40). We must all bring our thoughts to the perfect obedience of Jesus' example of perfection while He was on this earth (I Cor. 9:27).

A conversion of the mind is a complete overhaul of our thought processes. Anything short of that complete process is not a true conversion. Most of those who say they are converted Christians have only taken a very small step toward that process. The deceptive nature of a false conversion defeats the very purpose of our existence. The doctrine in mainstream religion is that Jesus did it all for us. Therefore, they conclude that the requirements for keeping His law no longer exist for us. The mercy and grace of our Father doesn't give us license to break His laws! If that were so, it would totally circumvent His requirement for entrance into His family. The entire chapter of Psalms "119" shows how wonderful God's law is in our lives. A carnal mind rejects those laws! The concept that we can be a part of the "family of God" without a total transformation of our minds is a doctrine of false conversion. The converted person yearns to keep God's laws because they have the mind of God. Obedience from a converted person is never from a fear of punishment.

How close do we have to come to a perfect obedience to God? We are told through scripture to bring all thoughts under the obedience of Christ (II Cor. 10:5). Unless we

decide to make use of the power of God's Holy Spirit, we will do the things that are natural for a carnally minded person (Rom. 7:14, 8:7). The Comforter, promised by Jesus to all who would choose to follow in His footsteps, will help us to have major breakthroughs in ridding ourselves of the "works of the flesh" (Rom. 12:1). A willing mind to the will of God is necessary to make those major breakthroughs. What would you be willing to correct in your life to be a part of the Family of God? Is there anything that you would put off limits? Jesus gave the young rich man who came to Him the next step in his salvation process. The requirements of that next step made him reject his calling to salvation (Mat. 19:16-22). The young man had already made some correct decisions in his life but the job of conversion was not over. He was on the right path toward perfection when Jesus gave him the next step. His failure to take the next step stalled out the conversion process. This crucial step in being a disciple and achieving perfection was not just for him. All disciples must make this difficult decision (Acts 4:32-37, 5:1-11). We can only hope he changed his mind and resumed his journey toward perfection. Perhaps you have made correct decisions in the past. Will you stall out in the process as God reveals other areas of your life to correct? Is there anything that you would not be willing to change? The decision is yours to make. God will not force you against your will. If you really have an understanding of what God is offering you in His Kingdom, you will be willing to give up anything and everything for that opportunity (Mat. 13:44). We are told that where our treasure is our heart will be also (Mat. 6:19-21). If our thoughts are constantly on material possessions or physical pursuits, we are neglecting the true treasure God is offering. We have to develop the attitude of being willing to go wherever God chooses to take us. Will you continue to walk through the series of doors God

opens to you? Will there be a door you will absolutely refuse to walk through? It may seem like a minor door to you but God is observing your response (Luke 16:10). The young rich man came to a critical point in his life just as each of us will encounter. The very fact that you are pursuing truth at this moment by reading this book shows that God is probing your mind! Are you willing to accept concepts contrary to the deceitful teachings you have embraced in the past? There are three approaches you can take at this moment; you can stall out the process by procrastination, you can abort the process by going backwards, or you can accelerate the process by moving aggressively forward. God says a person who begins his journey to the Kingdom and turns back is not worthy to enter that Kingdom (Luke 9:62).

Once we are convinced something is true, we should be willing to quickly abandon any wrong concepts and ideas in our pursuit of pleasing God. None of us should want to remain flawed in our thinking. Those flaws will delay our entrance into the Family of God. God has a very high standard for entrance into His Kingdom that will never be compromised; therefore underachievers in this life will not be rewarded on Judgment day (Eccl. 9:10 and Rev. 3:16). The way you are at this very moment is probably not good enough for meeting God's standard. We are commanded to examine ourselves on a constant basis to detect flaws in our character (II Cor. 13:5). There must be a willingness to root out false concepts deeply planted in our minds. We are admonished to bury the old self (Eph 4:22-32). The carnal part of you must be destroyed forever if you are to be a part of God's royal Priesthood (Rom. 6:6). Once the carnal mind has been destroyed, a new creature must emerge that is patterned after the "fruit of the Spirit" of God (II Cor.

5:17). When we get to that point of conversion we can echo the words of Paul, “I am crucified with Christ nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me...” (Gal. 2:20).

God doesn't require the impossible from us. He proved through the life of Jesus that someone who was of human flesh could accomplish perfection by the power of His Holy Spirit. There are many scriptures that show God's expectation of perfection in our lives (see appendix). He will not accept us in a flawed condition. God says that many are called but few are chosen (Mat. 22:14). He also stated that most will not find their way to perfection before the seventh trumpet (Mat. 7:14). These scriptures are addressing the small number of individuals that will be in the first resurrection. The vast majority of mankind who has been on this earth will have their opportunity to reach perfection at a later time (see chapter 4). The group of 144,000 Priests who will be resurrected at the seventh trumpet must seriously address this subject of perfection in this life time (see chapter 3). God understands how difficult it is to go up against Satan's system of deceit. Jesus, as the first born, went up against the same force as we do today. The Father has immense patience with the process of our spiritual growth in this world governed by Satan (Mat. 18:21-23). We need to show a tremendous amount of patience with ourselves and others as God lovingly works with us. The conversion process can cause us to encounter a lot of growing pains along the journey to a complete conversion of the mind. If we continually move forward as God leads us, we will reach our final destination! Don't ever think for a moment that the process of reaching perfection is an impossible requirement from God! If we were left to our own power, perfection would be impossible. God tells us that if we put Him first in our lives that nothing is impossible

(Mark 10:27). He even gave us a formula for perfection in the book of Peter (see appendix). It is an eight step process for mastering every obstacle along the way to conversion. As we encounter each revelation from God, we can apply this formula to help us reach perfection on that point. The process can be repeated as many times as needed until perfection is accomplished (II Pet. 1:3-9).

The perfecting of God's love and nature in our life will cast off all fear of failure (I John 4:18). The world's peer pressure of deceitfulness will release its grip if we would just willingly submit to God. We have to be willing to "break out of the box" of the world's way of thinking. God's influence will absolutely transform you to be like Him. Sitting in a chair or pew at church will not be the action that will prepare you for God's Kingdom. Sitting on the fence out of fear of the unknown won't prepare you for God's Kingdom. You must be willing to actively make positive changes in your life. You must be dedicated to working out your own salvation daily to be saved (Phil. 2:12). The true body of believers will be small and persecuted (Rev. 12:17). It is that small number that will be changed at the seventh trumpet (I Cor. 15:52). This small group of individuals will yearn to be a servant of the masses that will be resurrected at the end of the atonement period of 1,000 years (see chapter 4). You are on a journey right now to be accepted as a leader for that wonderful resurrection process. Be excited about developing the love God expects from you toward your fellow man.

Only the most dedicated individuals who are called in this life will be willing to go the full distance to conversion. Many more could accomplish the task if they would only

develop the courage to believe. Satan's fiery darts can be mastered with your Father's help. Satan was forced to back away from Jesus because Jesus was prepared for the test that was administered to Him (Mat. 4:1-11). Satan will also back away from us if we only walk in Jesus footsteps and draw close to the Father (James 4:7 and Heb. 7:15-19).

Reaching perfection is a process that can be accomplished with the additional help of Jesus' as our intercessor. He shows it can be done in our life by laying out the process necessary for accomplishing perfection. Jesus showed His mercy to the criminal being crucified with Him. His words of encouragement amid His own pain and agony reflect how much He was consumed with the salvation of everyone (Luke 23:39-43). He is very much aware of you and where you are in the process of converting your mind. Your job is to stop fighting God's willingness to work with your mind and get on with the job. You are admonished to stir up the Spirit of God in your life (II Tim 1:6). You need a time of refreshing in your life by the Spirit of God. The truth of God brings true liberty to all of us (John 8:32). The resurrections of the masses will some day allow all humanity to rejoice in this same liberty.

You are told to forcefully move forward in the process of conversion (Mat. 11:12). Paul said he was determined that nothing would de-rail him on his journey (Rom. 8:38-39). You have to develop that fearless attitude in your efforts. You can't be afraid or ashamed to stand side by side with Jesus your elder brother. You can't be reluctant to take on the Father's family name by walking in the footsteps of Jesus example. Jesus didn't come to save you in your sins. Jesus came to show you a way by which you could be saved. If you persist in sin you will lose out on eternal life. You are commanded to work out your own

salvation with trembling and fear (Phil. 2:12). A truly converted person will be totally void of the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:22). You will be a new creature in Christ. This total conversion of your mind is required for entrance into God's Kingdom as a Priest. You have to be a person obsessed with making the conversion to the "fruit of the Spirit." You must yearn for knowledge, wisdom, and understanding from your Father. In this process of conversion you are also commanded to reach out your hand to help others in their desire to reach perfection (Heb. 3:13).

The opposite of perfection is imperfection. This imperfection will not be good enough for God's standard. We are told that God will not be pleased with half-way efforts in reaching perfection (Rev. 3:2). If you begin the process and turn back you are as God described like a dog returning to its vomit (II Peter 2:20-22). In a very short time the trumpet will sound for the first resurrection. It is within your ability to respond to that trumpet. Those who have the testimony of Jesus and who keep their Father's commandments will constitute the group of 144,000 at the sound of the seventh trumpet. God is inviting you to be a part of that group of 144,000! God knows you can make the conversion from carnal to Spiritual if you really want it!