

“When You Are Converted”

How God Turns Attenders into Strengtheners

Text: Luke 22:32 (KJV)

³² But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Context: Luke 22:31-34 NASB2020

³¹ "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded to sift you *men* like wheat; ³² but I have prayed for you, that your faith will not fail; and you, when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." ³³ But he said to Him, "Lord, I am ready to go with You both to prison and to death!" ³⁴ But He said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me."

Converted: Vine's New Testament Dictionary

Epistrepho (ep-ee-stref'-o): "to turn about, turn towards"

It is a verb directed at a specific object (Simon), and so rendered "convert" (of causing a person to turn), to turn fully, decisively, completely.

What the Bible Teaches About Conversion:

1. Tolerating the Minimum Leads to Sifting
2. Turning Completely Is the Heart of Conversion
3. Transforming Others Is the Evidence of Conversion

Point #1: Tolerating the Minimum Leads to Sifting

- James 1:6-8 (NASB)
- Hebrews 12:25-27 (NLT)

James 1:6-8 (NASB)

⁶ But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, ⁸ *being* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Hebrews 12:25-27 (NLT)

²⁵ Be careful that you do not refuse to listen to the One who is speaking. For if the people of Israel did not escape when they refused to listen to Moses, the earthly messenger, we will certainly not escape if we reject the One who speaks to us from heaven! ²⁶ When God spoke from Mount Sinai his voice shook the earth, but now he makes another promise: "Once again I will shake not only the earth but the heavens also." ²⁷ This means that all of creation will be shaken and removed, so that only unshakable things will remain. ²⁸ Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe. ²⁹ For our God is a devouring fire.

If you're not converted, you'll be sifted

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Point #2: Turning Completely Is the Heart of Conversion

- Psalms 37:4-6 (NASB)
- Mark 8:34 (NASB)
- Psalms 1:1-3 (NASB)

Psalms 37:4-6 (NASB)

⁴ Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

⁶ He will bring out your righteousness as the light, And your judgment as the noonday.

Peter’s Conversion Was Real:

Preaches the 1st Gospel Sermon	Acts 2:14
Ministers Boldly in the Temple	Acts 3:6
Proclaims Jesus as the Only Name that Matters	Acts 4:12-13
Prioritizes Obedience to God Over Men	Acts 5:29
Teaches Others How to be Converted	I Peter 5:10

Mark 8:34 (NASB)

And He summoned the crowd together with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wants to come after Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me.

Psalms 1:1-3 (NASB)

¹ Blessed is the person who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

² But his delight is in the Law of the LORD, And on His Law he meditates day and night.

³ He will be like a tree planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

If nothing has turned, nothing has converted

Point #3: Transforming Others Is the Evidence of Conversion

- Romans 15:1-3 (NASB)
- I Thessalonians 5:14-24 (NASB)

Romans 15:1-3 (NASB)

¹ Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength, and not *just* please ourselves. ² Each of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to *his* edification.

³ For even Christ did not please Himself, but as it is written: "THE TAUNTS OF THOSE WHO TAUNT YOU HAVE FALLEN ON ME."

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I Thessalonians 5:14-24 (NASB)

¹⁴ We urge you, brothers *and sisters*, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. ¹⁵ See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek what is good for one another and for all people. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit, ²⁰ do not utterly reject prophecies, ²¹ but examine everything; hold firmly to that which is good, ²² abstain from every form of evil. ²³ Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will do it.

Transformed people transform people

RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION OF FAITH:

- 1. HEAR the GOSPEL ~ Romans 10:17**
So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.
- 2. BELIEVE ~ Hebrews 11:6**
But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.
- 3. REPENT ~ Luke 13:3**
I tell you nay; but except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish.
- 4. CONFESS ~ Matthew 10:32-33**
Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.
- 5. BE BAPTIZED ~ Acts 22:16**
And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.
- 6. BE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH ~ Revelation 2:10**
Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.