

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