Living a Converted Life
Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION
1. CONVERSION means: "to turn about or around" -- Matt. 13:15
2. The word implies a turning from and a turning to.
   (1) 1 Thess. 1: 9 "How ye turned to God from idols"
   (2) Acts 26:28 "Turn them from darkness to light"
3. "CONVERSION" is to change a thing or a person into something else.
4. Biblically, CONVERSION is the mental or moral change in man which begins with belief of the gospel, and ends with obedience -- Mk. 16:16
5. CONVERSION is simply the gospel process of turning men to God.
6. The means of bringing about CONVERSION is the WORD -- Psa. 19:7; Rom. 1:16
7. After one is Converted he must live a CONVERTED LIFE.
8. Many who are Converted never live a CONVERTED LIFE.

I. THE CONVERT MUST FORGET THE THINGS BEHIND -- Phil. 3: 13 - 14
   1. He must not look back longing for those things which appeal to the lust of the flesh -- Luke 9: 62
      (1) Israel looked back to Egypt lusting for the flesh pots -- Ex. 16:3; Num. 11: 4, 5, 6
      (2) The man who looks back and longs for the world won't long live a CONVERTED life -- Rom. 12: 9 "abhor that which is evil"; Luke 9: 62
      (3) Paul counted the things of the past refuse -- Phil. 3: 7 - 8
   2. To forget the past one must have the attitude of Paul.
      (1) Gal. 2: 20; 5:24; Col. 3:6
      (2) Phil. 1: 21

II. TO LIVE A CONVERTED LIFE ONE MUST NOT PERMIT THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH TO CONTROL HIM.
   1. We must bring our body into subjection -- I Cor. 9: 27; Rom. 6:12
   2. The convert must assert his will over his flesh -- Rom. 8: 5 - 8; Col. 3:5
   3. He does this by thinking on the right things -- Phil. 4:8; Prov. 4:23

III. TO LIVE A CONVERTED LIFE ONE MUST CONSTANTLY STUDY THE WORD OF GOD
   1. II Tim. 2:15
   2. Rom. 12:1 - 2
   3. I Pet. 2:2
   4. James 1: 22 - 25
   5. Heb. 5:12 - 14
   6. Psa. 11: 1 - 2
IV. TO LIVE A CONVERTED LIFE ONE MUST LOVE THE TRUTH
   1. 2 Thess. 2:10
   2. John 8:32
   3. Prov. 23:23
   4. Mat. 13: 45 - 46

V. TO LIVE A CONVERTED LIFE ONE MUST "COUNT THE COST" AND RESOLVE NOT TO BE MOVED.
   1. Paul did not let the affictions of life MOVE him -- Acts 20: 22 - 25
   2. Some things that failed to move Paul:
      (1) Persecution, bonds and affictions -- Acts 20: 23
      (2) Stoned at Lystra -- Acts 14: 19 - 22
      (3) Whipped and put in prison at Philippi -- Acts 16: 19 - 24
      (4) Discouragement caused by loss of his work -- Gal. 4:11
      (5) False brethren -- 2 Cor. 11:26; Gal. 2:4
      (6) Severe personal criticism -- 2 Cor. 10:10; I Cor. 4: 12 - 13
      (7) Prisoner at Rome -- Acts 28: 16 - 31
   3. Some of the things that move members of the church today:
      (1) The desire to be POPULAR
         1. Many won't stand up for the Lord; they will be moved before they will stand.
      (2) FRIENDSHIP of the world -- James 4:4
         1. Worldly friends who curse, tell vulgar jokes, and drink -- I Cor. 15:33
      (3) FALSE BRETHREN -- 2 Cor. 11: 26
         1. They are pretended friends who abuse confidence
         2. They spy upon conduct -- Gal. 2:4
         3. They use every possible opportunity to expose and destroy.
         4. They are brethren who will fail you -- II Tim. 4:10
         5. Mischief makers
      (4) FALSE DOCTRINE
         1. Many are carried with every wind of doctrine -- Eph. 4:14; Gal. 1: 6
      (5) LOVE OF MONEY
         1. I Tim. 6:6 - 10; Matt. 13:22
      (6) LOVE OF PLEASURE
         1. 2 Tim. 3:4
CONCLUSION

1. Friend, are you living a converted life?
2. If not, won’t you start today?
3. Have you ever been converted at all???

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