

# True Conversion

## Introduction

1. We often say that Baptism is the time and place where we are converted to Christ.
  - A. But our true conversion involves more than just our legal standing before God.
    - 1) It involves a change in conduct, attitude, priority, and purpose in life.
2. Acts 2:38 is a parallel passage to Acts 3:19. Listen to the words of God.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 3:19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,

- A. Baptism should result in a true conversion to Jesus Christ.
3. Have you ever heard anyone say, "so and so would make a good Christian. All he needs to do is get baptized?" That really isn't true.
    - A. Getting immersed in water is not the only difference between good moral people in the world and children of God.
    - B. The difference between the two is "TRUE CONVERSION."
  4. In the lesson this morning we will examine what true Bible conversion is all about.

## A New Master

### 1. True conversion involves having a new Master that guides our life.

1 Thessalonians 1:9 For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

**A. These brethren did not just turn from idols to God. They turned from idols to “SERVE” God!**

### 2. Is this the kind of conversion that we had? A conversion from the world to really “serve” God fully and completely?

## A New Purpose

### 1. True conversion involves having a new purpose in life.

Romans 6:20-22 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

**A. Prior to their conversion, they were “free” in regard to doing righteousness, but AFTER their conversion, they are now “slaves” to bear fruit to holiness!**

### 2. The apostle Paul let’s us know the purpose of baptism and what it should mean for those who are “truly converted.”

**Romans 6:3-19**

- **The glory of God, and, as our only means to glorifying Him, the salvation of human souls, is the real business of life.**

---- C.S. Lewis.

## A Change in Perspective

### 1. True conversion results in a change of one's perspective in life.

Philippians 3:4-8 though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: **(5)** circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; **(6)** concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. **(7)** But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. **(8)** Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

**A. The things we once valued, we do so no longer.**

**B. That which we once did not value, that now means everything to us!**

### 2. David's perspective of Goliath was different than the Israelites:

- **When Goliath came against the Israelites, the soldiers all thought, "He's so big we can never kill him." David looked at the same giant and thought, "He's so big I can't miss."**

## A Change in Destiny

### 1. True conversion results in a change in our destiny

James 5:19-20 Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will **save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.**

**A. Conversion saves a man from hell!**

**B. It puts him on the pathway to heaven.**

## Conclusion

1. We must understand that there certainly is more to being converted than being immersed in water.
2. One in the world is not the same as one in the church except for the baptism.
3. There's a major difference between the two.
  - A. That difference is CONVERSION and how it impacts every part of our life.
- **A truly converted person will produce fruit unto the Lord.**
4. Could it be that you need to undergo a "TRUE CONVERSION" and put on Christ in baptism now?

