

*A Five part series on The Plan Of Salvation: (This Week - [Conversion](#))

The Plan of Salvation

5. RECEPTION OF THE HOLY GHOST

4. WATER BAPTISM

3. SANCTIFICATION

2. REPENTANCE

1. [CONVERSION](#)

The Nature of Sanctification and [Conversion](#)

And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.
—Acts 20: 32

Sanctification is one of the necessary stones in the foundation and plan of salvation. In the Holiness Faith, it is prerequisite to the reception of the Holy Ghost. Truly, the temple must be sanctified before the Holy Spirit will enter to keep us. Sanctification through the Truth is one of the things, which helps us to put a difference between holy and unholy (Lev. 10:10). Through Sanctification, we are able to distinguish between the saints of the Most High and those who are among the hypocrites. We are only able to sanctify our physical lives, but the blood of Jesus is sufficient to sanctify us wholly — body, mind, and spirit (Heb. 13:12). Therefore, one of the primary steps in the direction of Holiness is to circumspectly look deep within one's self and thence to cast out all elements of uncleanness and unrighteousness.

What Is Conversion?

Conversion, as the term implies, is simply a sincere *about-face*. It is required of all who at some time or other were not Christ-oriented. To *convert* means *to change*. When we become converted we change our former way of thinking about religion and the God-Head. We accept Christ as our Savior and beg Him to forgive our sins. We become tired of a life of sin and sincerely desire that Christ will enter our lives as Lord and Savior. Conversion is one of the "first steps" in the plan of salvation.

1. CONVERSION
2. REPENTANCE.
3. SANTIFICATION
4. WATER BAPTISM
5. RECEPTION OF THE HOLY GHOST

Although the sequence is not necessarily rigid or "fixed" in the Plan, each step is nonetheless critical in the progression to the ultimate goal —ETERNAL LIFE.

Jesus, who often spoke in parables, made a striking parallel when He called a little child unto Him and sat him in the middle of the disciples who desired to know which one was greatest, and said unto them, "Verily, verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven," (Matt. 18:3). This "child like" humbleness is typical of true conversion when we lay aside our own stout-heartedness, proudness, vanity, and selfish aspirations to accept Christ and ask His mercy upon us, poor sinners, who in no wise merit His love and concern according to our lives (Isa. 64:6). This change of heart from a

proud mind to an humble spirit clears the way for Christ to enter into our lives and to use us in whatever capacity He desires, blotting out our sins after repentance (Acts 3:19). There can be no partial conversion, we must be totally converted from idolatry, false or non-living gods, deceit, corruption, and the like, as were the Gentiles converted (Acts 15:3) and we must accept the new man in His entirety, seeking to learn the Way and to remain therein.

Sometimes the true spirit of conversion requires God's help. We have to earnestly fast and pray that the Holy Ghost will help us to make the necessary and complete change, which is required. Jeremiah prayed, "Turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the Lord, my God." (Jer. 31:18). David pleaded for reconversion also — "Create in me a clean heart, Oh God and renew a right spirit within me," (Psa. 51:10).

*Taken from the book "The Beauty of Holiness: A Small Catechism of the Holiness Faith and Doctrine (second Edition) by Helen M. Lewis and Meharry H. Lewis.

CONVERSION

Text: Acts 10:1 Peter converts the Centurion

con·vert (kən-vûrt')

To change (something) into another form, substance, state, or product; transform:

Peter used this passage to disagree with God regarding what to eat, but being spiritual God spoke of a man's soul:

Leviticus 11:1 ¹ And the LORD spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them, ² Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. ³ Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat. ⁴ Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: as the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you. ⁵ And the coney, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you. ⁶ And the hare, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you. ⁷ And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he is unclean to you.

Psalms 19:7 - The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

Psalms 51:13 - Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Isaiah 6:10 - Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and **convert**, and be healed.

Matthew 13:15 - For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be **converted**, and I should heal them.

Matthew 18:3 - And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be **converted**, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Mark 4:12 - That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be **converted**, and their sins should be forgiven them.

Luke 22:32 - But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art **converted**, strengthen thy brethren.

John 12:40 - He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.

James 5:7-20 ⁷ ¹⁹ Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one **convert** him; ²⁰ Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

Romans 10:14...and how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

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