

Evidence of Conversion!



#2959 0718 21A

If people who really know us and interact with us were asked if we show *evidence of conversion* as a believer in Christ, how would they answer—is the question! Our ways, our words, and our treatment of everyone every day should give *evidence of conversion* of our heart.

If we have truly repented before God; confessed our sins to Him; and are willing to forsake any wrong attitude He reveals to us, then our life will give *evidence of a changed heart*. Our spiritual *condition* from the beginning of life is unresponsive to God—*this has to be changed*—and the first evidence of conversion is that *God* is now our main focus and concern.

The *Word* of God promises *forgiveness* from God when we confess our sins to Him and forsake them with His help. We are then to see ourselves righteous before God and acceptable to Him—¹ John 1:9. Our trust in the Blood of Christ *enables* this conversion.

Evidence of *conversion* is making a *decision*—Romans 12:2 “*Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*” This *renewing* or *converting* is on the authority of God’s *Word*—totally apart from anything seen, felt, or experienced. It is *centered* on accepting God’s *Word* as enough evidence of our new spiritual condition. It is *not* what we *see*; how we *feel*; what we *think*, or the *experience* we *had*—but only what the *Word* says is true.

There is a double *claim* for deliverance—the *Atonement* of Christ, and the *Word* of God. Romans 6:5 “*For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old [self] man is crucified with him.*”

Cornelius received a new *nature* from listening to *words*—words that told him Jesus was crucified and then raised to life—therefore the old nature of Cornelius was crucified and converted to a new nature. Jesus is Revelation 13:8 “*the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*” We are to believe that testimony from God concerning His Son—just as Cornelius believed the profound words from the apostle concerning Jesus. If we are not seeing *evidence* of conversion, then we are not seeing ourselves *planted* with Christ.

God uses life *circumstances* to reveal spiritual *conditions*. Simon was told to let down the net for fish—which resulted in a “*great multitude*” of them. Luke 5:8 “*When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.*” He was forgiven and told Luke 5:10 “*Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.*”

God used a *vision* with Isaiah. Isaiah 6:1-2 “*I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up.*” An angel said, ³ “*Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.*”

The prophet thought Isaiah 6:5 “*Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.*”

No matter what sin he committed or what spiritual condition he was in, when he confessed his sins; they were forgiven, and his heart converted. Isaiah 6:6-7 “*Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And*

he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.”

King Manasseh committed more sins than could be counted. ² Kings 21:2 “*He did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen.*” He sacrificed his children, used enchantments, and ⁶ “*dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.*” He filled Jerusalem ¹⁶ “*with innocent blood.*”

God allowed the Assyrians to capture him; bind him with chains and put him in prison. That horrible situation was used by God to convict him in heart. ² Chronicles 33:12 “*When [Manasseh] was in affliction, he besought the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers.*”

The king’s *heart* was *converted*—so God *changed* his situation and brought him out of prison. Manasseh was forgiven, reinstated, and restored to the throne. It was evidence he followed ¹ John 1:9 “*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*”

God’s *Word* became the king’s *guide* for life—his trust was on God at this point because his heart was converted. After praying, God ¹³ “*heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God.*”

The worst result of Adam’s *sin* was deleting any knowledge of *God*. Adam and Eve now had no *understanding* of God; no *confidence* in God; and no *fellowship* with God. It was a serious *state* to be in. It blocked any help God wanted to give them—a barrier was set up—by their own choice!

Most people today think a person is foolish to trust an *unseen God in faith*, instead of trusting a *seen drug in unbelief*. The *old nature* always

thinks that way—but the *new* nature *never* thinks like that—we must give evidence of conversion! 2 Corinthians 5:17 “*If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*”

When this new nature is *planted* in us, we begin to *trust* God in faith. Ezekiel 36:25 “*Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean*”—from that point of cleansing, we trust God in faith. The sin nature that *had* trusted worldly plans is deleted—“*From all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.*”

We see ourselves where the Atonement of Christ *places* us—not considering how we *feel* or what we *see*. Galatians 2:20 “*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*”

There should be *evidence* of spiritual growth in us because—Romans 6:5 “*We have been planted together in the likeness of his death.*” His resurrection to *life* gives us a new attitude in our *heart*—one that is willing to *know* God and *trust* Him more. We now tell *Him* about things that are troubling us—and not our friends. With each answer to prayer God becomes more real.

The apostle focused on one important thing—1 Corinthians 2:2 “*Jesus Christ, and him crucified.*” He had *one* objective in his teaching—to *encourage* them 1 Corinthians 2:5 “*That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*”

The *result* of God’s forgiveness and grace is seen in a very definite way. Our heart is now *converted* to trust God, so with any temptation or trial, we will give *evidence* of our *conversion* by *not* putting our troubles on someone’s *shoulders*, but by putting the problem before *God* in prayer.

At any time—day or night—we have the privilege of telling *God* about our problem; *confessing* our sins to Him; and then *claiming* our Atonement rights—rights made possible by our faith in the atoning work of His Son. When we follow this sequence, God can break Satan’s hold on us—the wrong attitudes and desires of the past, are now all in the past.

This new attitude wants to trust God in faith—and His Holy Spirit enables us to do it. When we make the decision to follow the instructions of God’s Word, we will begin to see spiritual growth—Romans 6:5 “*We have been planted together*” with Christ and are learning more about God.

It is terrible to go through life *not knowing* God and *not trusting* Him. When Israel left Egypt and were given a passageway through the sea, they were protected and healed because they were under the blood of a lamb. They soon arrived at Canaan where God was ready to *guide* them and *give* them all they needed. Deuteronomy 8:8-9 “*A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it.*”

Moses sent twelve to—Numbers 13:18 “*See the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many.*” It took forty days. 23 “*And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.*”

They said Numbers 13:27-28 “*Surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great.*” Their report of the *land* showed no conversion of *heart*. They did not respond to God’s

Spirit—and were not seeing things through the lens of the new nature.

Numbers 13:30-31 “*Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it. But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.*” Fear can control decisions.

Israel had to wander in a desert for forty years until everyone over twenty perished—except Caleb, Joshua, and Moses. This was the dreadful result of not allowing God to convert their heart.

Nothing could stand against those who went into the Promised Land by faith in God. It could have been that way for the others if they had been willing to trust God. Those that perished believed the lies of the devil. The carnal mind never *thinks* about God and does not *trust* God for anything.

After Israel went into the Promised Land, the walls of Jericho fell—nothing could stand against them, and even the giants could not harm them. *That* is the result of a *true conversion* of heart. When God is allowed to give us His righteousness and wisdom, human impossibilities do not mean a thing because—Romans 8:31 “*If God be for us, who can be against us?*”

Any right religious teaching will *always* bring us back to God; back to *dealing* with Him about everything we need; back to where we are *learning* to trust Him every day—for everything—and to where we are being prepared for Heaven—that is *evidence of conversion!*



www.fcqchurch.org

*Be on our free mailing list—contact:

PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

info@fcqchurch.org

#2959 0718 21A