

Introduction

1. Conversion describes the action of “turning about” or “turning towards” ([Acts 26:18-20](#); cf. [Acts 9:32-35](#), [11:21](#), [14:15](#))
 - a. John the Immerser would turn (convert) many of the children of Israel to the Lord as the forerunner of Christ (cf. [Lk. 1:16-17](#))
2. No longer am I going to be a child of the devil but a child of God ([Rm. 6:16](#); cf. [1 Jn. 3:10](#))
 - a. At the moment of conversion, the allegiance of the convert changes from Satan to God
 - b. Satan will not take this lightly ([1 Pt. 5:8-9](#))
 - c. Staying converted becomes my life’s work as I strive to do the will of God and help others do the same ([Mt. 7:21-27](#))

Take Heed to Yourself

1. Self-examination is essential ([2 Cor. 13:5](#))
 - a. False gods and deities are not the standard, God is ([Mt. 5:48](#); [Eph. 5:1](#))
 - b. Other people are not the standard, Jesus Christ is ([Rm. 8:29](#); [1 Jn. 2:6](#))
 - c. Man’s philosophies, ideologies, and sophistries are not the standard, the Word of God is ([Phil. 3:13-16](#); cf. [Gal. 6:14-16](#); [Jm. 1:21-25](#), [2:12](#))
 - d. This is a daily task ([Acts 17:10-11](#))
 - i. The result of searching the Scriptures is conversion ([Acts 17:12](#); cf. [Acts 16:25-34](#))
 - e. I must be growing or I am dying ([2 Pt. 3:18](#); cf. [1 Pt. 2:2](#))
2. Self-control is commanded ([1 Cor. 9:24-27](#))
 - a. Begins with the mind ([2 Cor. 10:3-5](#))
3. Self-love is lawful ([Mt. 22:39](#); cf. [Rm. 13:9](#); [Gal. 5:14](#); [Jm. 2:8](#))
 - a. We need some down time ([Mk. 6:31](#))
 - b. We need some time with God alone ([Mt. 14:23](#))
 - c. We show our love to God and thus our own souls in keeping His commandments ([Jn. 14:15](#))

Take Heed to The Doctrine

1. Doctrine must be sound ([Titus 2:1](#); cf. [2 Tim. 1:13](#))
 - a. doctrine (*didaskalia* G1319 did-as-kal-ee’-ah) *instruction* (the function or the information):—doctrine, learning, teaching (Strong 23)
 - b. sound (*hygiaino* G5198 hoog-ee-ah’ee-no) to *have sound health*, i.e. *be well* (in body); fig. to be *uncorrupt* (*true* in doctrine):—be in health, (be safe and) sound, (be) whole (-some). (Strong 73)
 - c. Paul left Titus in Crete to set things in order ([Titus 1:5](#))

Staying Converted – Self and Others

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- d. Doctrine is sound if it is book, chapter, and verse rightly divided [taught accurately] ([2 Tim. 2:15](#))
- e. The Old Testament is written for our learning [*didaskalia*] ([Rm. 15:4](#))
2. Pay attention to what is being taught ([Acts 17:10-11](#))
 - a. Not everyone teaches the truth ([Mt. 7:15-20](#); cf. [1 Tim. 4:1-3](#); [2 Tim. 2:16-18](#))
3. Pay attention to what you are teaching ([1 Tim. 4:13](#))
 - a. Desire may be present but so must be understanding ([1 Tim. 1:5-7](#); cf. [2 Tim. 3:1-8](#))
 - b. Put in the work and make sure it is correct before it is taught ([Jm. 3:1](#))
 - c. Not only is my conversion, but other's conversions are at stake! ([2 Tim. 4:1-5](#); cf. [1 Cor. 9:27](#))

Continue In Them

1. Staying converted means continuing to allow God's Word to transform my life ([Rm. 12:1-3](#))
 - a. Conversion begins, not ends, at baptism ([Acts 2:38, 3:19](#))
2. God wants us to stay converted which implies it is possible to turn back to the world
 - a. Demas did ([Col. 4:14](#); [Phm. 24](#); [2 Tim. 4:10](#))
 - i. Why? He did not love God, others, or himself; he loved this present world
 - ii. Why? He was not grounded and settled in the faith ([Col. 1:23](#))
 - iii. Why? He did not keep himself in the love of God ([Jude 21](#))
 - iv. Why? He did not take heed to himself or the doctrine ([1 Tim. 4:16](#))
3. Daily exhortation is essential for staying converted ([Heb. 3:12-13](#))

Conclusion

1. One who stays converted distances themselves from sin ([Rm. 6:1-4](#))
 - a. The opposite of being converted is continuing in sin
 - b. A fully converted person is dead to sin and alive to God ([Rm. 6:11](#))
2. Take heed to yourself
 - a. You must work out your own salvation (conversion) with fear and trembling ([Phil. 2:12](#))
3. Take heed to the doctrine
 - a. What I believe and teach directly impacts my conversion and others
4. Continue in them
 - a. Keep examining self, practice self-control, and love of God, others, and self