

“Paul-A Changed Man”

Gal. 1:21-24

Introduction

- I. How confident are we that Christianity is true (1 Pet. 3:15)?
- II. Are we certain enough that we are willing to change our lives?
 - A. Paul is a wonderful example of a person that believed Christianity to be true.
 - B. He believed so strongly that he became a changed man.
 1. Paul went from persecutor to preacher.
 2. Paul went from consenting to contrition.
 3. Paul went from popular to persecuted.

Discussion

- I. Paul went from persecutor to preacher.
 - A. There was no doubt of Paul's previous persecutions (Acts 8:3-4; 9:1-5; 22:1-5; 26:9-11; Gal. 1:13).
 - B. Soon after his obedience to the Gospel, Paul became a powerful preacher (Acts 9:18-22, 27-29; 26:22-23; 1 Cor. 1:14-17; 2:1-2; Gal. 1:23; 1 Tim. 1:12).
 1. He believed so strongly in Christianity that he made three missionary journeys preaching the Gospel.
 2. He believed so strongly in Christianity that he was willing to die to stay faithful (Acts 21:13; 2 Tim. 4:6-7).
- II. Paul went from consenting to contrition.
 - A. Paul, then know as Saul, was present and approved of the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:51-8:1; 22:19-20).
 - B. Paul greatly regretted his previous way of life (1 Cor. 15:9-10; Eph. 3:6-9; Phil. 3:4-11; 1 Tim. 1:12-15; 2 Cor. 7:10).
- III. Paul went from popular to persecuted.
 - A. Remember again the life that Paul once lived (Phil. 3:4-6; Acts 22:3, 5; 26:4-5).
 - B. Think about all of the suffering that Paul endured because of Christianity (2 Cor. 11:23-28; 2 Tim. 1:11-12).

Conclusion

- I. If Christianity is not true, then why did it change Paul so much?
- II. Have we really changed since becoming Christians?
 - A. Do we preach to others (Mark 16:15)?
 - B. Are we contrite over our previous ways of life (2 Cor. 7:10)?
 - C. Are we willing to endure persecution for the cause of Christ (1 Tim. 3:12)?