

Rethinking Conversion III

“The Why of Conversion”

What is the purpose of conversion?

There are seasons of “Drifting, Shifting, Lifting and Sifting” in life.

KJV **Luke 22:31-32** And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, **Satan hath desired to have you**, that he may **sift you** as wheat: ³² But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and **when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.**

Why conversion?

There are seasons of drifting.

To drift means to propel or drive along.

ESV **Ephesians 4:14** so that we may no longer be children, **tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine**, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Seductive, repetitious voices can cause people to leave sound doctrine.

Crafty deceitful people with personal self-interest, lead people astray.

Drifting is to move slowly, gradually off course.

☐ Hold to your foundations and don't drift during this season.

☐ The Lord converts our thinking to bring us back to His original purpose, plan, and design.

I

There are Seasons of shifting.

KJV Matthew 4:18-19 While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for **they were fishermen.** ¹⁹ **And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”**

To shift means to change the place, position, or direction of something or someone.

Shifting can happen suddenly or gradually.

The Lord is shifting some from obscurity to visibility.

The Lord is shifting some from a local to a national influence

The Lord is shifting some from a national voice to a global voice.

☐ We must shift our vision to see the Lord in our extremes of life!

KJV Psalm 139:7-8 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? ⁸ If I ascend up into **heaven**, thou art there: if I make my bed in **hell**, behold, thou art there.

II

There are seasons of lifting.

☐ Lift up your eyes, see further.

KJV Psalm 121:1-2 I will **lift up mine eyes** unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. ² My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.

See the Lord who made everything.

☐ Lift up your heads, see clearer.

KJV Psalm 24:7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

See the Lord strong and mighty.

See the Lord of Host, the Lord of armies.

☐ Lift up your hands, see broader.

KJV Psalm 134:2 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.

Lift up your hands in surrender.

Lift up your hands in victory.

☐ Lift up the LORD!

KJV John 12:32 And I, if I be **lifted up** from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

See the harvest. See the loss. See the solution.

☐ Be the solution.

Lift up your voice like a trumpet.

☐ Lift up Jesus in sacred space, public space, the marketplace, cyberspace, every place!

III

There are seasons of sifting.

Why converted thinking?

Sifting happens when we make confessions beyond our level of commitment.

Simon Peter is a great case study.

KJV Luke 22:31 And the Lord said, **Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:** ³² **But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.** ³³ And he said unto him, Lord, **I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death.** ³⁴ And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

Sifting helps you discover what you really believe.

Sifting helps you discover your real commitments.

☐ Satan is God's tool for sifting.

☐ Everything that hits your life is God sent or God used.

There are seasons, of “Drifting, Shifting, Lifting, and Sifting!”

*Rhema Christian Center
Bishop La Fayette Scales
Saturday & Sunday, December 7 & 8, 2024
9:30 a.m.*