

Mistakes About Conversion part1 (student version)

Joseph Alleine's An Alarm to the Unconverted OR A Sure Guide to Heaven

Chapter 1. MISTAKES ABOUT CONVERSION [pages 19-25]

P1 "The devil has made many counterfeits of conversion, and cheats one with this, and another with that. ..."

Alleine is references Matthew 24:24 or

Mark 13:21-22 "And then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ'; or, 'Behold, *He is there*'; do not believe *him*; ²² for false Christs and false prophets will arise, and will show signs and wonders, in order to lead astray, if possible, the elect.

What conversion is Not [page19]

P2 **Conversion is not the taking upon us the profession of Christianity**

"Christianity is more than a name..."

It is Power

1 Corinthians 4:20 For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power.

"...if to put on the Christian profession, had been true conversion..."

Sardis **Revelation 3:1**

Laodicea **Revelation 3:14-16**

"Are there not many that name the name of the Lord Jesus, that do not depart from Iniquity..."

2 Timothy 2:19

"...and profess they know God, but in works deny Him?"

Titus 1:15-16 To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. ¹⁶ They profess to know God, but by *their* deeds they deny *Him*, being detestable and

disobedient and worthless for any good deed. [Titus 1:10 For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,...]

“And will God receive these for true converts? What! Converts from sin, when they still live in sin? It is a visible contradiction.”

Preachers...Evil-workers
In the Church Of England...

Matthew 7:21-23

Other verses not identified in Alleine...

1 John 1:5-6 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;

1 John 2:3-6 By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; ⁵ but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: ⁶ the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

Comments:

2nd London Baptist Confession of Faith (LBCF)

Chapter 21: Of Christian Liberty and Liberty of Conscience

Paragraph 3 They who upon pretense of Christian Liberty do practice any sin, or cherish any sinful lust, as they do thereby pervert the main design of the grace of the Gospel to their own destruction, so they wholly destroy the end of Christian Liberty, which is, that being delivered out of the hands of all our enemies, we might serve the Lord without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him, all the days of our lives.

Yet, is it possible for there to be True Christians who appear as one of these Christians in Name Only?

LBCF

Chapter 17: Of The Perseverance of The Saints

Paragraph 3

“And though they may, through the temptation of Satan and of the world, the prevalency of corruption remaining in them, and the neglect of the means of their preservation, fall into grievous sins, and for a time continue therein, whereby they incur God’s displeasure and grieve His Holy Spirit, come to have their graces and comforts impaired, have their hearts hardened, and their consciences wounded, hurt and scandalize others, and bring temporal judgments upon themselves, yet they shall renew their repentance and be preserved through faith in Christ Jesus to the end.”

Chapter 15: Of Repentance Unto Salvation

Paragraph 2

“Whereas there is none that doth good and sinneth not, and the best of men may, through the power and deceitfulness of their corruption dwelling in them, with prevalency of temptation, fall into great sins and provocations; God hath, in the covenant of grace, mercifully provided that believers so sinning and falling be renewed through repentance unto salvation.”

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P2 Conversion is not putting on the badge of Christ in baptism

The Romanist, Presbyterian, and Church of England baptized infants.

Westminster Confession

Chapter 28: Of Baptism. Paragraph 4 Not only those that do actually profess faith in and obedience unto Christ, but also the infants of one, or both, believing parents, are to be baptized.

The claim, “I was baptized...,”

“Ananias and Sapphira, and Simon Magus were baptized as well as the rest...”

Why does Alleine say that they were baptized?

Ananias and sapphira **Acts 5**

Simon magus **Acts 8:9-24**

“How many make a mistake here...dreaming that effectual grace is necessarily tied to the external administration of Baptism, so that every baptized person is regenerated,...”

Acts 3:18-20

Alleine references Matthew 19:28

Matthew 19:24-29

“And indeed, if conversion and baptism were the same...”

Certificate of Baptism

P3 “In short, if there is nothing more to conversion, or regeneration, than to be baptized, this will fly in the face of Scripture...”

Matthew 7:13-14

“...multitudes of others (Scripture verses)...”

Mark 1:14-15

Luke 13:1-5

It’s “repent and believe” not just “be baptized.”

“...for if all that are baptized are saved, the door is exceedingly wide, and we shall henceforth say, ‘Wide is the gate, broad is the way that leadeth unto life.’ ...”

Thus, we can no longer teach:

1 Peter 4:18

Matthew 11:12

Luke 13:23-28

Wrestle, Strive, Knock, Seek

So (if we cannot teach these and other verses), then we can say,

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P1 ‘Who then shall not be saved?’

1 Corinthians 5:11-13.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

P2 “But some will reply...renewed again, or else they cannot be saved.”

P3 “I answer...”

1) Infallible connection between regeneration and salvation

2) Then man must be again born again...absurd

3) Alleine contends for...they must have more to plead for themselves than baptismal regeneration

P4 “...if men are evidently unsanctified, they must be renewed by a thorough and powerful change...”

Proverbs 13:18-20

Holy, Strict, Self Denying

Matthew 15:10-14

For the record:

LBCF Chapter 29: Of Baptism all paragraphs.