

>> ALL AUTHORITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH. GO THEREFORE, AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE END OF THE AGE.

>> MORE, MORE ABOUT JESUS. MORE, MORE ABOUT JESUS. MORE OF HIS SAVING FULLNESS SEE, MORE OF HIS LOVE WHO DIED FOR ME.

CLIFF >> MY NAME IS CLIFF GOODWIN, AND I WELCOME YOU HERE TODAY FOR PREACHING THE GOSPEL. IN ORDER FOR THE GOSPEL TO BE PREACHED, THE WORD OF GOD MUST BE PREACHED. I HAVE MY COPY OF THE WORD OF GOD IN MY HAND, AND I ENCOURAGE YOU TO TAKE YOUR BIBLE DOWN AT HOME ALSO SO THAT WE CAN STUDY THE WORD OF GOD TOGETHER. HOW WONDERFUL IT IS THAT WE ARE BLESSED WITH THE BIBLE, A BOOK THAT REVEALS FOR US THE WILL OF GOD FOR OUR REDEMPTION. PETER TELLS US THAT TODAY WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN ALL THINGS PERTAINING UNTO LIFE AND GODLINESS, AS WE FIND IN 2 PETER 1:3. NOW, WITH THAT IN MIND, I'VE ENTITLED OUR STUDY FOR TODAY, CONSEQUENCES OF CONVERSION. CONSEQUENCES OF CONVERSION. CONVERSION IS AN OFT-USED BIBLICAL TERM. IT REFERS TO THE POINT OF TRANSITION, THE POINT OF CHANGE IN WHICH AN ALIEN SINNER GOES FROM BEING SUCH TO BECOMING A CHILD OF GOD, A SAINT, A BELOVED SERVANT OF THE MOST HIGH. NOW, A PERSON IS CONVERTED BECAUSE HE OR SHE HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO THE TEACHINGS FOUND RIGHT HERE, FOUND IN SCRIPTURE. AND YET AS WE KNOW FROM ROMANS 1:16, THE GOSPEL IS POWERFUL; WE KNOW FROM HEBREWS 4:12 THAT THE WORD OF GOD IS QUICK AND POWERFUL AND SHARPER THAN ANY TWO-EDGED SWORD. AND SO WE'RE REMINDED OFTEN THROUGHOUT THE SCRIPTURES THAT THE WORD OF GOD IS POWERFUL AND IS THEREFORE EFFECTIVE IN EFFECTING MAN'S CONVERSION. WELL, IF THAT'S THE CASE, AND IT IS, THEN THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY GOING TO BE SOME CHANGES, THERE ARE GOING TO BE SOME VISIBLE CHANGES OR IMPROVEMENTS ALSO IN A PERSON'S LIFE AND IN A PERSON'S BEHAVIOR AND IN A PERSON'S CHARACTER AS A RESULT OF HAVING COME IN CONTACT WITH THIS MESSAGE AND HAVING SUBMITTED THEREUNTO. WE'RE GOING TO SPRINGBOARD FROM A TEXT FOUND IN COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 3. NOTICE WITH ME THESE FOUR VERSES. IT'LL TAKE JUST A MOMENT. PAUL SAID, IF YE THEN BE RISEN WITH CHRIST, A REFERENCE BACK TO THEIR BAPTISM IN CHAPTER 2 AND VERSE 12, SEEK THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE, WHERE CHRIST SITTETH ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD. SET YOUR AFFECTION ON THINGS ABOVE, NOT ON THINGS ON THE EARTH; FOR YE ARE DEAD, AND YOUR LIFE IS HID WITH CHRIST IN GOD. WHEN CHRIST WHO IS OUR LIFE SHALL APPEAR, THEN SHALL YE ALSO APPEAR WITH HIM IN GLORY. NOW, AS I HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT IT BEFORE, I REALLY THINK THAT THESE FOUR VERSES SERVE AS A WONDERFUL PLACE FROM WHICH TO BEGIN A STUDY OF CONVERSION, AND PARTICULARLY SOME OF THE CONSEQUENCES THAT OUGHT TO FOLLOW CONVERSION. NOTICE WITH ME HERE FOR EXAMPLE IN THESE FOUR VERSES HOW THAT FOR A CHRISTIAN, A CONVERTED SOUL, THERE IS A NEW MASTER, THERE IS A NEW MINDSET, THERE IS A NEW MOTIVATION, ALL RIGHT HERE IN THE FIRST FOUR VERSES OF COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 3. THE NEW MASTER IS MENTIONED IN VERSE 1. IF YE THEN BE RISEN WITH CHRIST. HAVING COME UP FROM THE BAPTISMAL WATERS, RISING TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE, AS WE KNOW FROM ROMANS 6:3-4, THAT PERSON NOW HAS A NEW MASTER. ACCORDING TO VERSE 3 OF OUR TEXT, THAT PERSON IS DEAD, AND HIS LIFE IS HID WITH CHRIST IN GOD. AND SO A NEW MASTER MEANS THERE'S A NEW WAY OF LIFE. IT MEANS ALSO, NUMBER TWO, A NEW MINDSET. THIS COMES TO US FROM VERSES 1 AND 2 ABOUT SEEKING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE, SETTING OUR AFFECTION ON THINGS ABOVE, NOT ON THINGS ON THE EARTH. AND SO IT IS A CONVERTED PERSON DOESN'T LOOK AT LIFE THE SAME

WAY THAT PEOPLE IN THE WORLD TYPICALLY DO. WE NOW LOOK AT LIFE THROUGH A SPIRITUAL LENS OR FROM A SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVE, AND ULTIMATELY WE'RE ANTICIPATING THE GLORIES OF HEAVEN. WE WANT THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE ONE DAY WITH OUR GOD IN HEAVEN FOR EVERMORE. THAT'S A NEW MINDSET. THAT'S A NEW WAY OF APPROACHING LIFE AND LIVING LIFE DAY IN AND DAY OUT. AND THEN THAT BRINGS US ALSO TO NUMBER THREE, OUR NEW MOTIVATION. THAT'S FOUND IN VERSE 4, WHEN CHRIST WHO IS OUR LIFE SHALL APPEAR, THEN SHALL YE ALSO APPEAR WITH HIM IN GLORY. WE'RE MOTIVATED BY THE FACT THAT JESUS IS COMING BACK. HE CERTAINLY IS. AND WHEN HE COMES BACK IN HIS GLORY, HE'S GOING TO BRING HOME HIS FAITHFUL TO GLORY. WHAT GREATER MOTIVATION COULD THERE BE THAN THAT? AND SO IT IS HERE IN COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 3 WE HAVE BEGUN THIS CHAPTER BY NOTICING THAT CONVERSION MAKES A DIFFERENCE. THERE ARE CONSEQUENCES TO ONE'S BEING CONVERTED. NOW, WHAT I WOULD LIKE FOR US TO DO FOR THE BALANCE OF OUR STUDY TIME TOGETHER HERE TODAY IS I WOULD LIKE TO BREAK SOME OF THESE CONSEQUENCES OR SOME OF THESE DIFFERENCES THAT SHOULD BE SEEN IN A CONVERTED PERSON'S LIFE, I WOULD LIKE TO GROUP THEM INTO THREE BASIC CATEGORIES. I'M NOT MAKING ANY CLAIM THAT THIS IS EXHAUSTIVE IN ITS LISTING, BUT IT DOES ROUND OUT BASICALLY THE IDEA OF BEING CONVERTED. IT COVERS A LOT OF THE BASICS REGARDING CONVERSION OR WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE A CONVERTED LIFE. AND WE'RE GOING TO DEVELOP THESE THREE IDEAS FROM THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS ITSELF. SO NUMBER ONE, LET'S LOOK TOGETHER AND NOTICE THAT THERE SHOULD BE DOCTRINAL CHANGES IN A CONVERTED PERSON'S LIFE. DOCTRINAL CHANGES. WHEN WE SPEAK OF DOCTRINE, WE'RE SPEAKING OF THAT WHICH IS TAUGHT, THAT WHICH IS BELIEVED, AND ULTIMATELY THAT WHICH IS PUT INTO PRACTICE. THE WORD DOCTRINE IS REALLY JUST ANOTHER WORD FOR TEACHING, AND IT CAN REFER BOTH TO THE ACT OF TEACHING ITSELF, BUT IT ESPECIALLY REFERS TO THE BODY OF INSTRUCTION THAT IS TAUGHT, THAT IS DELIVERED. WELL, NOW THAT WE'RE CONVERTED, NOW THAT WE'VE BEEN BURIED WITH CHRIST, COLOSSIANS 2:12, RISEN WITH CHRIST, COLOSSIANS 3:1, THERE SHOULD BE SOME DOCTRINAL CHANGES IN OUR LIVES. THERE SHOULD BE SOME CHANGES IN WHAT WE BELIEVE, WHAT WE TEACH, AND IN WHAT WE PRACTICE. GIVE YOU THREE QUICK EXAMPLES FROM BACK IN COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 2. NUMBER ONE, WE SHOULD BE LEAVING THE OLD TESTAMENT SHADOWS. THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS A COVENANT OF TYPES, THE NEW TESTAMENT CONTAINS THE ANTITYPES. THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS A COVENANT OF SHADOWS; THE NEW TESTAMENT CONTAINS THE REAL SUBSTANCE. LOOK AT THIS WITH ME FROM COLOSSIANS 2:16-17. PAUL WOULD WRITE, LET NO MAN THEREFORE JUDGE YOU IN MEAT OR IN DRINK, OR IN RESPECT OF AN HOLY DAY OR OF THE NEW MOON OR OF THE SABBATH DAYS. DO YOU RECOGNIZE THOSE AS BEING OLD TESTAMENT CONCEPTS AND CONSIDERATIONS? VERSE 17, WHICH ARE A SHADOW OF THINGS TO COME; BUT THE BODY, YOU AND I MIGHT SAY THE SUBSTANCE, IS OF CHRIST. AND SO RIGHT HERE IN COLOSSIANS 2, THE APOSTLE PAUL WAS TELLING THE COLOSSIAN CHRISTIANS, HE SAYS, LOOK, YOU'RE NO LONGER UNDER THOSE OLD TESTAMENT MANDATES. YOU'RE NO LONGER LIVING UNDER THAT OLD LAW OF MOSES. YOU CAN BACK UP AND GLANCE IN YOUR BIBLE AT HOME TO VERSE 14, WHERE YOU'LL SEE THAT THOSE THINGS, THE HANDWRITING OF ORDINANCES CONTAINED IN THE LAW OF MOSES, THEY WERE NAILED TO THE CROSS. THAT OLD LAW HAS BEEN NAILED TO THE CROSS IN ORDER THAT THE NEW LAW MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED, HEBREWS 10:9-10. AND SO FOR THE CONVERTED CHILD OF GOD, THEY SHOULD LEAVE THE OLD TESTAMENT SHADOWS IN ORDER TO EMBRACE AND FOLLOW THE NEW TESTAMENT REALITIES. BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. TALKING ABOUT DOCTRINAL CHANGES, IN THE NEXT PLACE, THEY ALSO SHOULD LEAVE BEHIND ANY AND ALL EXTRA-BIBLICAL MYSTICISM AND SIMPLY TAKE THE WORD OF GOD ITSELF. NOW, WE DERIVE THIS FROM VERSE 18. SO LOOK WITH ME NOW TO COLOSSIANS 2:18. LET NO MAN BEGUILÉ YOU OF YOUR REWARD IN A

VOLUNTARY HUMILITY AND WORSHIPING OF ANGELS, INTRUDING INTO THOSE THINGS WHICH HE HATH NOT SEEN, I WANT YOU TO CIRCLE THE WORD NOT, VAINLY PUFFED UP BY HIS FLESHLY MIND. YOU MIGHT ASK, WELL, WHAT IN THE WORLD WOULD CAUSE A PERSON TO TEACH OTHER PEOPLE THAT THEY NEED TO MAKE THESE VOLUNTARY CONCESSIONS AND THAT THEY NEED TO WORSHIP ANGELS OR PERHAPS RELY UPON ANGELS AS AN AVENUE BY WHICH THEY CAN ACCESS GOD? WHAT IN THE WORLD WOULD POSSESS A MAN TO TEACH SUCH FAR-OUT THINGS? AND THE ANSWER IS HE'S CLAIMING THAT HE HAS SEEN THESE THINGS IN HIS MIND, THAT HE'S RECEIVED SOME KIND OF MYSTICAL REVELATION SUPPOSEDLY FROM GOD HIMSELF. WELL, THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH THAT, A VERY BIG PROBLEM. AND THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, IT'S FALSE. IT'S WRONG. ALL OF THAT IS EXTRA-BIBLICAL. THE TERM EXTRA-BIBLICAL MEANS GOING BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THE BIBLE. AND HERE, PAUL WAS TELLING THE COLOSSIANS, HE SAYS, LOOK, IF ANYBODY COMES AT YOU WITH THESE MYSTICAL REVELATIONS THEY'RE CLAIMING TO HAVE SEEN, BUT AS YOU CIRCLED THE WORD NOT THERE, THEY HAVE NOT REALLY SEEN THESE THINGS, BUT THEY'RE MAKING THESE CLAIMS, PAUL TELLS THEM, HE SAYS, LOOK, YOU REFUSE THAT. GO AWAY FROM THAT. A CONVERTED PERSON NO LONGER LISTENS WHEN A MAN COMES SAYING, LOOK, I'VE RECEIVED A DIRECT REVELATION FROM GOD. NO, YOU HAVEN'T. NOT TODAY YOU HAVEN'T. IF YOU'VE RECEIVED A REVELATION FROM ANYONE, IT'S NOT BEEN FROM GOD; AND THEREFORE WE NEED TO LEAVE IT ALONE, WE NEED TO REJECT IT. REMEMBER, PETER TELLS US THAT WE'VE ALREADY BEEN GIVEN ALL THINGS THAT PERTAIN UNTO LIFE AND GODLINESS, 2 PETER 1:3. SO LET'S LEAVE ALL THAT EXTRA-BIBLICAL STUFF, LET'S LEAVE IT ALONE. ONE MORE AREA IN WHICH WE MAKE DOCTRINAL CHANGES NOW THAT WE'RE CONVERTED, AND THAT IS THAT WE ALSO LEAVE BEHIND CONVENTIONAL RELIGION. MAYBE WE MIGHT CALL IT CHIMNEY CORNER SCRIPTURE. I'M TALKING ABOUT CONVENTIONAL RELIGION THAT IS REALLY RATHER POPULARIZED, WELL-KNOWN IN MANY CIRCLES; BUT IN ACTUALITY IT'S BASED ON MAN-MADE DOCTRINES, MAN-MADE TRADITIONS. AND WHEN AN EARNEST SOUL REALLY GETS TO SEARCHING IN THE BIBLE, HE OR SHE CANNOT FIND THESE DOCTRINES ANYWHERE. WE NEED TO LEAVE THOSE ALONE. LOOK WITH ME HERE FURTHER IN COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 2, DOWN AT VERSE 20, WHEREFORE, IF YE BE DEAD WITH CHRIST FROM THE RUDIMENTS OF THE WORLD, WHY, AS THOUGH LIVING IN THE WORLD, ARE YE SUBJECT TO ORDINANCES, SUCH AS TOUCH NOT, TASTE NOT, HANDLE NOT, WHICH ALL ARE TO PERISH WITH THE USING AFTER OR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMANDMENTS AND THE DOCTRINES OF MEN? SEE, THIS PUTS US IN MIND OF RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS THAT HAVE BEEN REALLY POPULARIZED. THEY'RE WIDELY KNOWN, THEY'RE WIDELY BELIEVED, PEOPLE ARE FAMILIAR WITH THEM, THEY'RE WIDELY RECEIVED; AND YET UPON INSPECTION, THEY'RE BASED UPON THE DOCTRINES AND THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN, AS PAUL ALLUDED TO THERE OR AS HE MENTIONED THERE IN VERSE 22. LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE. HOW OFTEN IN OUR MODERN RELIGIOUS WORLD DO WE HEAR ABOUT A SO-CALLED SINNER'S PRAYER? OH, THAT'S EXTREMELY POPULAR. PEOPLE GET ON TELEVISION, AND THEY'LL TALK ABOUT THE SINNER'S PRAYER, URGING THEIR VIEWERS TO PRAY ALONG WITH THEM SOME KIND OF SINNER'S PRAYER. DO YOU KNOW THAT THERE IS NO SUCH THING IN THE BIBLE AS A RECOGNIZED, QUOTE, SINNER'S PRAYER, SOMETHING THAT IS AUTHORIZED OR ACCEPTABLE TO GOD? NOT AT ALL. IN FACT, WE READ THAT THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE OVER THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ARE OPEN UNTO THEIR PRAYERS; BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THEM THAT DO EVIL, SINNERS, 1 PETER 3:12. AND YET HOW WIDELY ACCEPTED, HOW WIDELY TAUGHT IS THAT NOTION? THAT'S A PROBLEM. WE NEED TO LEAVE BEHIND CHIMNEY CORNER SCRIPTURE, MAN-MADE TRADITIONS, CONVENTIONAL RELIGIOUS THOUGHT, LEAVE IT BEHIND WHEN IT'S FOUND TO BE IN CONTRADICTION TO THE WORD OF GOD. THESE ARE SOME DOCTRINAL CHANGES THAT A CONVERTED PERSON MUST MAKE. NUMBER TWO. LET'S SWITCH GEARS AND LET'S TALK ABOUT SOME MORAL

CHANGES THAT SHOULD RESULT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF CONVERSION. MORAL CHANGES. FOR THIS, WE MOVE BACK INTO COLOSSIANS CHAPTER 3, AND I WANT TO GROUP THESE CHANGES BASICALLY INTO THREE PARTS. NUMBER ONE, THERE SHOULD BE CHANGES REGARDING OUR SEXUAL ETHIC. LOOK AT COLOSSIANS 3:5. MORTIFY THEREFORE YOUR MEMBERS WHICH ARE UPON THE EARTH, FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS, INORDINATE AFFECTION, EVIL CONCUPISCENCE, AND COVETOUSNESS, WHICH IS IDOLATRY. ABOUT FIVE OR SIX ITEMS ARE LISTED THERE IN VERSE 5, BUT I WANT YOU TO NOTICE WITH ME THAT THE FIRST FOUR ALL CAN CARRY A SEXUAL CONNOTATION: FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS, INORDINATE AFFECTION, EVIL CONCUPISCENCE, OR EVIL DESIRES. PAUL WAS REMINDING THE COLOSSIANS, HEY, MORTIFY THESE THINGS. YOU PUT THESE PRACTICES TO DEATH. WHY? BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN RISEN WITH CHRIST, COLOSSIANS 3:1. NOW, HOW APPLICABLE AND HOW PERTINENT IS THAT TEACHING FOR OUR WORLD TODAY? IN THE MODERN WORLD, SO MANY VIEW HUMAN SEXUALITY AS JUST A FREE-FOR-ALL. PEOPLE ARE JUST SUPPOSEDLY FREE TO DO WHATEVER THEY CHOOSE TO DO, TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES IN WHATEVER MANNER THEY CHOOSE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES. BUT FRIENDS, THAT'S NEVER BEEN THE BIBLE'S TEACHING. THE BIBLE HAS ALWAYS HAD A VERY CLEARLY-DELINEATED PLAN FOR HUMAN SEXUALITY, BOTH ITS EXPRESSION AND ITS FULFILLMENT. AND NAMELY, THAT'S WITHIN THE REALM OF GOD-ORDAINED MARRIAGE BETWEEN A HUSBAND AND HIS RIGHTFUL WIFE. ALL OTHER SEXUAL BEHAVIORS, PUT THEM TO DEATH. MORTIFY THOSE THINGS IN YOUR LIFE. THAT SHOULD BE A MORAL CHANGE RESULTING FROM A PERSON'S BEING CONVERTED. THE SECOND CATEGORY HERE THAT I WANT US TO COVER APPEARED AT THE END OF VERSE 5. YOU MIGHT REMEMBER THAT PAUL ALSO MENTIONED, AND COVETOUSNESS, WHICH IS IDOLATRY. THERE SHOULD NOT ONLY BE A CHANGE IN OUR SEXUAL ETHIC; THERE SHOULD BE A CHANGE ALSO IN OUR MONETARY ETHIC, HOW WE VIEW MONEY, HOW WE REGARD MONEY AND HOW WE TREAT OTHER PEOPLE REGARDING MONEY. THE WORD COVETOUSNESS BASICALLY MEANS GREED, AN INORDINATE DESIRE FOR MORE AND MORE AND MORE. AND IT IS A FORM OF IDOLATRY. A COVETOUS MAN HAS MADE GOLD HIS GOD. AND SO HE'S GUILTY NOT ONLY OF COVETOUSNESS, BUT HE'S ALSO GUILTY YET OF IDOLATRY. WELL, FOR US AS CHRISTIANS, OUR CONVERSIONS MEAN THAT WE NOW LOOK AT MATERIAL POSSESSIONS A LOT DIFFERENTLY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO OUR EXISTENCE THAN SIMPLY THE HERE AND NOW, THAN SIMPLY THIS WORLD AND ALL THE MATERIAL POSSESSIONS OR RICHES THAT ARE FOUND IN IT. WE'RE LONGING FOR ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN. WE'RE LONGING FOR A PLACE WHERE NEITHER MOTH NOR RUST, NEITHER OF THEM CORRUPT, AND WHERE THIEVES CANNOT BREAK THROUGH NOR STEAL, MATTHEW 6:19-21. AND SO THERE'S A CHANGE IN OUR MONETARY ETHIC AS WELL. BUT NOW A THIRD CATEGORY HERE AS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT MORAL CHANGES RESULTING FROM CONVERSION. AND THAT IS THERE'S GOING TO BE A CHANGE IN OUR HEARTS AND IN OUR SPEECH. MOVE DOWN WITH ME HERE TO COLOSSIANS 3:8-9. BUT NOW YE ALSO PUT OFF ALL THESE: ANGER, WRATH, MALICE, NOTICE THOSE CONDITIONS OF THE HEART, AND NOW BLASPHEMY, FILTHY COMMUNICATION OUT OF YOUR MOUTH. LIE NOT ONE TO ANOTHER. NOTICE THOSE CONDITIONS OF THE TONGUE. SEEING THAT YE HAVE PUT OFF THE OLD MAN WITH HIS DEEDS. LET'S BEGIN AT THE END OF VERSE 9, AND WE'LL WORK BACKWARDS INTO THOSE VERSES. SEEING THAT YE HAVE PUT ALL OFF THE OLD MAN WITH HIS DEEDS IS A WAY OF DESCRIBING CONVERSION. AND SO PAUL IS MAKING IT CRYSTAL CLEAR THAT NOW BECAUSE THESE COLOSSIANS HAD BEEN CONVERTED THAT THERE WERE TO BE MORAL CHANGES IN THEIR HEARTS AND IN THEIR WORDS. THIS IS VERY INTERESTING, BECAUSE OUR LORD, WHILE HE WAS UPON EARTH, HE POINTED OUT VERY CLEARLY THE CONNECTION BETWEEN A PERSON'S HEART AND A PERSON'S SPEECH. NOTICE THIS WITH ME IN MATTHEW 12:34. JESUS SAID, OH GENERATION OF VIPERS. HOW CAN YE, BEING EVIL, SPEAK GOOD THINGS? FOR OUT OF THE ABUNDANCE OF THE HEART THE MOUTH SPEAKETH. AND SO FRIENDS,

AGAIN, THERE SHOULD BE ALL MANNER OF MORAL CHANGES FOR THE BETTER ONCE A MAN OR A WOMAN HAS BEEN CONVERTED. CHANGES IN HEART AND SPEECH, CHANGES REGARDING BUSINESS AND MONEY, CHANGES REGARDING SEXUALITY. MORAL CHANGES. BUT NOW FINALLY, NUMBER THREE. LOOK WITH ME AS WE CONSIDER FRATERNAL CHANGES THAT RESULT FROM CONVERSION. FRATERNAL CHANGES. YOU RECOGNIZE THE WORD FRATERNAL AS PERTAINING TO A FAMILY OR SPECIFICALLY PERTAINING TO A BROTHERHOOD. AND THAT'S EXACTLY THE MANNER IN WHICH I'M USING THIS TERM, BECAUSE WHEN A SOUL IS CONVERTED, HE OR SHE IS BORN AGAIN, BORN INTO GOD'S FAMILY. THEY AUTOMATICALLY INHERIT, AS IT WERE, SUNDRY BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST. AND NOW AS A CONVERTED SOUL, AS A NEW BABE IN THE FAMILY OF GOD, THERE ARE GOING TO BE SOME FRATERNAL CHANGES. I HAVE TO CULTIVATE A LOVE AND A REGARD FOR MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST. I'VE GOT TO LIVE LIKE PART OF THE FAMILY, AND I'VE GOT TO BEHAVE THE PART, SO TO SPEAK. LOOK WITH ME AT COLOSSIANS 3:12. PAUL TOLD THEM, HE SAID, PUT ON THEREFORE, NOW THAT'S A WORD FOR PUTTING ON AS IT WERE A SUIT OF CLOTHING, PUT ON THEREFORE AS THE ELECT OF GOD, HOLY AND BELOVED, PUT ON BOWELS OF MERCIES, WE MIGHT SAY HEARTS OF COMPASSION, KINDNESS, HUMBLENESS OF MIND, MEEKNESS, LONGSUFFERING. AND SO IF WE WERE TO PARAPHRASE VERSE 12 IN OUR OWN WORDS, WE MIGHT SAY, LOOK, I'VE GOT TO DRESS THE PART. NOW THAT I'M CONVERTED, I'M A PART OF GOD'S FAMILY. I'M A BROTHER AMONG BRETHREN. I HAVE SISTERS IN CHRIST. I NEED TO DRESS THE PART. AND WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT AN OUTWARD LITERAL SUIT OF CLOTHES, BUT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CLOTHING OURSELVES WITH THOSE VIRTUES THAT WE READ IN VERSE 12: MEEKNESS AND LONGSUFFERING AND THE HEARTS OF COMPASSION, THINGS THAT MAKE FOR GOOD FAMILY LIFE IN THE LORD'S CHURCH. EVEN THOUGH WE'RE CONVERTED, WE'RE STILL PEOPLE. AND BECAUSE WE'RE PEOPLE, ANOTHER FRATERNAL CHANGE THAT WE MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME GETTING USED TO, BUT WE NEED TO WORK ON IT, INSTANTLY WE NEED TO BEGIN WORKING ON IT, IS THAT OF FORGIVENESS. NOW THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US, WE'VE GOT TO BECOME PEOPLE WHO FORGIVE EACH OTHER. LOOK AT COLOSSIANS 3:13. FORBEARING ONE ANOTHER AND FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER; IF ANY MAN HAVE A QUARREL AGAINST ANY, EVEN AS CHRIST FORGAVE YOU, SO ALSO DO YE. ALL OF THESE THINGS AND MANY OTHERS ARE INVOLVED IN LIVING AS A PART OF THE FAMILY OF GOD. FRATERNAL CHANGES BECAUSE YOU AND I HAVE BEEN CONVERTED.

JAMES >> LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE GOSPEL BROADCASTING NETWORK HAS JUST BROUGHT YOU PREACHING THE GOSPEL WITH BROTHER CLIFF GOODWIN. IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION RELATIVE TO ANYTHING THAT'S BEEN TAUGHT, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE A CD OR A TAPE OF THE MESSAGE, JUST CALL THE TOLL-FREE NUMBER ON YOUR SCREEN. BE HAPPY TO SEND IT TO YOU. AND BY THE WAY, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STUDY THE BIBLE PRIVATELY IN YOUR OWN HOME, WE OFFER FREE A SET OF FIVE STUDIES, AND WE'D BE HAPPY TO SEND THESE TO YOU AT NO COST AT ALL, AND IT WOULD BE OF GREAT ADVANTAGE. STUDY YOUR BIBLE, LEARN THE TRUTH, AND OBEY THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. IT WILL HAVE TO DO WITH YOUR ETERNAL DESTINY. WE APPRECIATE CLIFF, THE EXCELLENT JOB THAT HE DID IN THE PRESENTATION OF TRUTH. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT. MAY GOD BLESS.

CLIFF >> THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME TODAY AS WE'VE DISCUSSED SOME CONSEQUENCES OF BEING CONVERTED. BUT AS WE CLOSE, LET ME REMIND YOU WHAT ONE MUST DO TO BE CONVERTED. HE OR SHE MUST HEAR THE GOSPEL, ROMANS 10:17; BELIEVING THAT MESSAGE, MARK 16:16; REPENTING, TURNING FROM SIN, ACTS 2:38; CONFESSING JESUS, ROMANS 10:9-10; AND PUTTING HIM ON IN BAPTISM FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS, ACTS 22:16. AGAIN, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING WITH ME TODAY.

>> MORE ABOUT JESUS LET ME LEARN, MORE OF HIS HOLY WILL DISCERN. SPIRIT
OF GOD MY TEACHER BE, SHOWING THE THINGS OF CHRIST TO ME. MORE, MORE
ABOUT JESUS. MORE, MORE ABOUT JESUS. MORE OF HIS SAVING FULLNESS SEE,
MORE OF HIS LOVE WHO DIED FOR ME.