

# Practical Religion - Self-Inquiry (Part 4)

by J.C. Ryle

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## Transcript

(5) Let me ask, in the fifth place, whether we know anything by experience of conversion to God.

Without conversion there is no salvation. "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall never enter the kingdom of heaven."-- "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."-- "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His."-- "If any man be in Christ he is a new creature." (Matthew 18:3, John 3:3, Romans 8:9, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

We are all by nature so weak, so worldly, so earthly-minded, so inclined to sin, that without a thorough change we cannot serve God in life, and could not enjoy Him after death. Just as ducks, as soon as they are hatched, take naturally to water, so do children, as soon as they can do anything, take to selfishness, lying, and deceit; and none pray or love God, unless they are taught. High or low, rich or poor, gentle or simple, we all need a complete change--a change which is the special office of the Holy Ghost to give us. Call it what you please--new birth, regeneration, renewal, new creation, quickening, repentance--the thing must be had if we are to be saved: and if we have the thing it will be seen.

Sense of sin and deep hatred of it, faith in Christ and love to Him, delight in holiness and longing after more of it, love for God

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