

Lessons From Those Who Refused to Turn

Introduction:

- A. The New Testament is full of examples of conversion--those who were willing to hear, turn, and be reconciled to God (*Acts 2:36-41; 4:1-4; 6:7*).
- B. But not everyone was willing to listen. Not every heart is willing to be shaped by God (*Rom 10:14-16; 1 Peter 2:4-8*).
- C. What can we learn from New Testament cases of non-conversion?

I. Jewish authorities in Jerusalem

- A. Greatly _____ (*Acts 3:11-15, 19; 4:1-3, 10, 16-17*)
- B. Filled with _____ (*Acts 5:17-18*)
- C. _____ (*KJV: cut to the heart, Acts 5:33*)
- D. _____ their ears (*Acts 7:51-60*)

II. Athenians

- A. "What does this _____ wish to say?" (*Acts 17:18*)
- B. "You bring some _____ things to our ears" (*Acts 17:20*)
- C. Some _____ (*Acts 17:32*)

III. Ephesians

- A. Jews: some became _____ and continued in unbelief (*Acts 19:8-9*)
- B. Greeks: "there is danger to this _____ of ours" (*Acts 19:23-29*)

IV. Felix the Governor

- A. _____ by Paul's reasoning about righteousness, self-control, and judgment (*Acts 24:25a*)
- B. "Go away for the present. When I get an _____ I will summon you" (*Acts 24:25b*)
- C. At the same time he hoped that _____ would be given him by Paul (*Acts 24:26-27*)

V. Agrippa the King

- A. "In a short time would you _____ me to be a Christian?" (*Acts 26:28*)
- B. Then the king _____... (*Acts 26:30*)