

# The Role of the Holy Spirit in Conversion

## Introduction:

- A. The Holy Spirit most certainly plays a role in the conviction and conversion of sinners. But how?
- B. The question does not revolve around the *fact* of the Spirit's work, but the *manner* of his work.

## I. What is conviction?

A. Jesus promised that a significant aspect of the Spirit's work would be **convicting** (*John 16:7-11*).

1. "Concerning \_\_\_\_\_, because they do not believe in me" (16:9).
2. "Concerning \_\_\_\_\_, because I go to the Father" (16:10).
3. "Concerning \_\_\_\_\_, because the ruler of this world is judged"

(16:11).

B. We get a greater sense of the word's (*elenxei*) meaning when we notice its various renderings:

1. "If your brother sins against you, go and **tell** him his fault..." (Matt 18:15).
2. "Herod the tetrarch, who had been **reproved** by [John] for Herodias..." (Luke 3:19).
3. "[He] who does wicked things hates the light...lest his works should be **exposed**" (John 3:20).

3:20).

4. "As for those who persist in sin, **rebuke** them in the presence of all..." (1 Tim 5:20).

C. What would the Spirit use in his work of convicting? "The \_\_\_\_\_" (*John 16:12-13*).

D. The truth as God's tool of conviction (*Matt 18:15; Mark 6:18; John 3:20; Eph 5:6-17; 1 Tim 5:20;*

*2 Tim 4:2; Tit 1:9-13; 2:15; James 2:9; Jude 1:14-15*).

## II. What is conversion?

A. In *Acts 3:19*, Peter preached, "Repent therefore and be **converted**" (NKJV) or "turn back" (ESV).

B. We get a greater sense of the word's (*epistrepsate*) meaning when we notice its various uses:

1. "...lest they should see...and hear...and understand...and **turn**..." (Matt 13:15).
2. "...we bring you good news, that you should **turn** from these vain things..." (Acts 14:15).
3. "...to open their eyes, so that they may **turn** from darkness to light..." (Acts 26:18-20).
4. "...how can you **turn back** again to the weak and worthless..." (Gal 4:9).

C. What was used to encourage people to turn? "Good \_\_\_\_\_" (*Acts 14:15*).

D. The truth as God's tool of conversion (*Acts 26:20; James 5:19-20; John 16:13*).

## III. "The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (*Eph 6:17*)

A. Instrumental in the new \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 3:5; Tit 3:4-7; 1 Pet 1:22-25; James 1:18-21*).

B. Instrumental in our \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor 6:9-11; Eph 5:25-27).

B. Instrumental in filling us with all \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in believing (Rom 15:13; 1:16; 10:17).