

fact seems to be stated, for it is said of the three thousand, that on that first day of the Church's history they were added to its membership, and again, a few days after, some five thousand stepped into Pentecostal life without going through the prolonged stages of "old-fashioned conversions" or even "new-fangled" ones.

How is it possible that such cumbrous machinery could gather about the simple act of conversion to a person? It is only when the person as a living presence is lost sight of and creeds about Him are substituted that such absurdities can come to the front.

Therefore, we maintain that to return to the simplicity of faith concerning Christ and the Holy Ghost would sweep all this rubbish into non-existence, until even the memory of it all would seem like as that of some nightmare after we had awakened from semi-consciousness.

THE SIMPLICITY OF CONVERSION EMPHASIZED.

We wish in this article to draw attention to the fact that simply turning to Christ and to the Holy Ghost, the sent of the Father, without any atonement theories, and without the acceptance in prospective of any or all the doctrinal or holy exercise teachings alluded to in former articles, is as all-comprehensive and as thorough as with them—nay, more so.

We have the sanction of Jesus Himself upon the simple act of turning—being converted—to Him as being all-sufficient, in the incident which occurred on the day of His crucifixion. He who will read into the profession of faith in Jesus, made by the thief on the cross, any atonement theories, or accepted legalistic practices, must have an ill-balanced mind, not only as to logic, but even as to imagination. All that was in it was simple acceptance of Jesus as his Master, when, immediately, all the far-reaching possibilities of Christian conversion were his as a divine necessity.

So, also, all the conversions to Jesus during His life were after this simple, this sublime pattern. Follow Me, said

He to the twelve, and they left all and followed Him; this was their conversion to the world's Redeemer. And this simple, although all-comprehensive, act, entitled them, if they but continued to so act, to all the glories and immunities of His kingdom—the kingdom of Heaven. This Jesus Himself declared in the words, "Ye who have followed me in the regeneration when the Son of Man shall sit in the throne of His glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

And further, He recognized the same simplicity of condition for all others, as is unmistakably brought out in the following verse: "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life." Matt. xix. 29.

When Jesus Christ added nothing further than personal following, and gave authority to none to do so, then may we in the presence of our Master pour contempt on all human additions, and suspect that they all have their origin in failure, or unwillingness to follow the living Christ.

Conversion to be genuine must be to a living personality, with the intention to follow loyally what He will or may direct us personally to do. Conversion to what he may or *presumably* may have said, or what others may have said about Him, is not the conversion to Jesus which is specimined in the Scriptures. True, it is an attempted imitation, but the attempt is a pronounced failure.

Conversion to what Jesus may have said is simple hero worship, and is on a par with Confucianism or Buddhism, and can never be on a par with simple conversion to Jesus and the Holy Ghost as living personalities.

If then any should feel the sensation of alarm because of our familiarity in handling the accretions which have gathered around conversion, seeing their superstitious reverence therefor is threatened with annihilation, we ask them to take notice that nothing of real value is being attacked, for all that is valuable in conversion is left, whilst the clearing away of the rubbish enables us to realize