

## NOT EVERYONE WANTS TO BE A CHRISTIAN

John 5:40

(Not entirely original with me)

**Introduction:** Jesus was always trying to get His Jewish countrymen to believe in Him but they just would not for they thought that they were just fine as they were. After all they were descendants of Abraham, the chosen ones. Jesus was asking them to make a choice but they just refused to do so. People are the same today as they are just not interested and therefore not willing to become followers of Jesus, Christians.

### I. WHAT IS INVOLVED IN BEING A CHRISTIAN?

1. Christians are no longer under the death penalty which sin brings to every human being.
  - Christians are indebted to Jesus Christ through whom they are pardoned and therefore escape eternal life.
2. Christians receive spiritual and eternal life through Jesus Christ, God's Son.
  - *Romans 6:23; 1 John 5:11-12*
  - Spiritual life is being joined into fellowship with God's will and God's whole state of mind.
  - Becoming a Christian, one identifies with God's will and way of doing things.
  - Eternal life is continued existence, but also is identifying with God's way of thinking.

### II. HOW DOES ONE BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

1. Becoming a Christian does not involve a change of place or going off somewhere, but it is a change of one's mind.
2. Becoming a Christian is something one must do him/herself after being invited and involves a deliberate act by that person.
3. Becoming a Christian is an act of the mind as distinct as an act of one's body.
4. Becoming a Christian is an act of the mind after reasoning.
5. Becoming a Christian is a deliberate, chosen, voluntary act of one's will/mind.
6. Becoming a Christian is something one chooses to do with a reason behind the decision.
7. Becoming a Christian is taking Jesus Christ at His Word and committing one's self to Jesus for what Jesus promises.
8. Becoming a Christian involves:
  - A consent that one deserves the death penalty.
  - It is coming to Jesus Christ for pardon, exemption from the death penalty, accepting God's justice of being sentenced to eternal death.
  - It is accepting the death sentence.
9. Becoming a Christian is coming to Jesus Christ for pardon and expecting that pardon from Him.
10. Becoming a Christian for spiritual and eternal life involves:
  - Renouncing sin.
  - Yielding of one's will and entire being to the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Voluntarily surrendering one's mind to the Holy Spirit's teachings.

### **III. SOME DO NOT WANT TO BECOME CHRISTIANS**

1. Some are not willing, they just don't want to.
2. Some refuse to recognize his/her being already under the sentence of damnation.
3. Some don't understand that if they were not already under the sentence of damnation, there would be no need for Jesus Christ and His invitation to come unto Him for salvation.
4. Some say that they have never been "drawn" but they have never really been interested in Jesus Christ to begin with.
5. Some, however, have never heard of Christ and know nothing about Him, therefore they have not had a reason to make a decision for or against Jesus Christ.
  - However, those who have heard of Jesus Christ, even been instructed in how to come to Him but have not, are simply unwilling.

### **IV. WHY SOME WON'T BECOME CHRISTIANS**

1. Some are too proud, blind, and self righteous to agree with Jesus that they need to be delivered from the death sentence already passed on them.
2. Some are unwilling to accept Jesus' death as being a substitute for theirs as they don't realize that they are sinners under the great curse of sin and have already been condemned.
3. Some don't want to give up their life of sin and change over into a life of holiness.
4. Some won't become Christians because they would be associated with a new way of life, a new family and they just don't want such a change in their lives.

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. To become a Christian is to become like Jesus Christ.
  - It is being in sympathy with Jesus Christ.
  - It is yielding one's self entirely to obey Jesus Christ.
2. The greatest difficulty one has in becoming a Christian is one's unwillingness because of what all is involved in coming to the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. ARE YOU a Christian? IF NOT, then why not?
4. Once one's life on this earth is ended, there is NO HOPE of ever being able to come to the Lord Jesus Christ for pardon, salvation, eternal life, escape from damnation.
5. NOW is the day of salvation...accept God's wonderful offer, no one is deserving of God's love, but He offers it today through His Son, Jesus.