

Almost Acts 26:24-29

Almost Is A Very Sad Word

Many almost do God's will – Cain - **Genesis 4:3; Hebrews 11:4**

Moses **Numbers 20: 1-12**

The Rich Young Ruler **Mark 10:17-22**

The five foolish virgins **Matthew 25:1-13**

King Agrippa made this statement *"You almost persuade me to become a Christian."*

Let's examine this statement carefully word by word and see what is taught here; what lessons can we learn from the way this statement is worded.

Almost (In A Short Time)

Defeats Faith Only

Agrippa had already believed but wasn't saved - **Acts 26:27**

Paul wished they were Christians like himself - **John 12:42; Matthew 10:32; James 2:19**

You

Defeats Direct Operation Of Holy Spirit

"You" represents a man (Paul)

The word was proclaimed to Agrippa

Up to the individual to take action

Paul had the best opportunity to be saved in this manner - **Acts 22:6-16**

Lord spoke to him "go to Damascus"; Be told what he must do

Prayed and fasted for three days but was not saved

Man (Ananias) came & told him what to do - **Acts 22:16**

Holy Spirit does not operate in salvation separate and apart from the word.

Persuade Me

Defeats Mourners Bench Salvation

Some have the idea that God must be persuaded to save

God is no respecter of person - **2Peter 3:9; Acts 10:34-35; 1Timothy 2:4; 2Corinthians 5:11,20-21**

Made him to be sin for us who knew no sin; God did beseech you by us; Be ye reconciled to God

To Be (Shows Action)

Defeats "Getting Religion"

Religion of Christ is not something that one gets

Christianity is a religion of practice - **Matthew 7:21; Luke 6:46**

Christ himself set the example - **Acts 1:1**

James shows that religion is not a matter of getting, but one of doing - **James 1:26-27**

A Christian

Defeats Idea There Is Nothing In A Name - **Luke 24:47; Acts 4:12; 1Peter 4:16**

Agrippa was not almost persuaded to be called by some man-made name

Wearing of man's name causes division - **1Corinthians 1:10-13; Acts 11:26**

Almost Is But To Fail

There is no evidence that Agrippa ever became fully persuaded to be a Christian

If not, he passed from this life without hope, lost forever, suffering throughout eternity

Though he had such a wonderful opportunity to do God's will and be a Christian

Don't make same mistake; you have opportunity, take advantage, obey Gospel today

"Almost cannot avail; Almost is but to fail; Sad, sad, that bitter wail -- Almost but lost."

JerryHenderson