

# A Change In Status: From Head To Heart

John 1:42; 18:15-18(25-27); 21:15-17

## 1. Intro

1. Often in life we have a head knowledge about a particular thing. When that head knowledge is transferred to our heart, we then develop a passion for it.
  1. It can be something tangible (Ford vs Chevy vs Dodge), or an ideal (politics, religion)
  2. Illustrate - Learning to fly (from book to reality)
2. Today we are going to look at Peter.
  1. I believe he moved from head knowledge about Jesus, to a heart of understanding.
3. Thesis
  1. In this life we are given the opportunity to change our status from head knowledge to heart knowledge.

## 2. Peter

1. Name change. (John 1:42)
  1. Andrew introduces his brother to Jesus. Jesus changes his name.
    1. Simon - "hearing" Peter - "rock"
2. Rocky road (John 18:15-18, 25-27)
  1. Left all to follow Christ (Luke 5:10-11)
  2. Profession of faith (Mark 8:27-30)
  3. Is rebuked strongly for going against the word of Jesus (Mark 8:31-33)
  4. Willing to fight (sword) (John 18:10)
  5. Jesus foretold denial (Luke 22:31-32)
    1. Was at his low point when he denied Christ
    2. Would he be thinking that he was rejected?
3. Restoration (John 21:15-17)
  1. Jesus resurrected
    1. Angels says "Go tell Peter" (Mark 16:7)
    2. Appeared to (Luke 24:34, I Cor 15:5)
  2. Was lifted back up and became one of the pillars of the early church (John 21)
  3. Willing to suffer
    1. Preaching in Acts 2 - no sword
    2. Writes a couple of books talking about suffering (I & II Peter)
4. He has moved from a head knowledge about Jesus to a heart of understanding.

## 3. Application

1. How do we understand the head/heart knowledge?
  1. If we have been around a Christian culture for awhile we may begin to have an understanding about who Jesus is.
    1. But we may look at ourselves, know who/what we are and question, "How can Jesus love me?"
      1. Because we see ourselves in a negative light we continue doing what we have been doing.
    2. As we see that He does love us, we then may move to where we look to Jesus for the relief of our pain and our ticket to success in life. (Still head knowledge)
      1. We may find that this is not necessarily the case.

2. We need to take our experiences with head knowledge and move them into the heart.
  1. If we begin to let Jesus have more of us, He will begin to change our heart.
  2. As our heart changes, the passion for our Saviour will begin to bubble up. (II Cor 5:16-17)
3. Will this put us in a position so that we will suffer for Him?

#### 4. Conclusion

1. Change of status
  1. Transference from the earthly to the heavenly
2. Peter changed; from a man who sought Jesus for power, prestige, and prosperity to a man who counted rejection, suffering, and death for Christ's sake a great privilege and a blessing.
  1. If there was hope for Peter to change, there is hope for anyone.
3. We need to change, but in relationship to Christ