



**The Wheel of Faith
Bible Study Guides
Lesson #6
“When the Heart Sorrows”**

Today’s topic is one of the most missed in the Christian world. So many people after they have made a decision to follow Christ, and to come to Him to be a disciple, are suddenly left to a very antithetical end! In other words, they are led to believe that they are now saved, and in a relationship with Jesus, and the idea is “just to keep on believing He died for you”, and that is being a Christian. The Bible tells us that there is much more than just coming to Christ.

What should come next?

The Gospel message has a very specific step that must be taken after one has come to Christ; and unless this is understood, then we are left to a very superficial gospel, which is no gospel at all.

1. Read Acts 2:37 (KJV)

“Now when they heard this, they were _____ in their _____, and

said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

The whole of chapter two of Acts is the call to heed the Gospel that the disciples are preaching for the first time in public by themselves without Jesus being around, and the call to come to Christ has been given by way of reminder of an old prophecy. (see verse 21) The people are coming, and hearing the words of Peter, and they are answering the call of Matthew eleven "Come unto Me", via the disciples.

a. Acts says they were "cut or pricked in their hearts". What does this mean?

- Pricked in the heart means to be convicted, or as the Greek defines it: *to agitate the mind sharply*.

2. Therefore, next on our Wheel of Faith is **Conviction**.

a. What is conviction?

- Read **John 8:9**. What did you find?
- Conviction happens when our own conscience, or inner thoughts in our mind are stirred up to believe that something is either wrong or right.

b. Where does conviction come from?

- Read **John 16:8**

"And when ____ is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"

- Who is "He"?
- John says that *when **He** comes, **He** will convict the world.*
- *Read Acts 2:33.*
- The Holy Spirit is being promised here in John, and when He comes His first and main work would be to bring conviction of sin and of righteousness to the hearts of people because there is a judgment going on.

c. Why is the work of the Holy Spirit (Conviction) so important in light of the judgment? (Refer back to Lesson Three) What is Christ doing for us in the Heavenly Sanctuary?

- The work of the Holy Spirit is to work together with Christ to get our sins into the Sanctuary where they can be covered.

d. Read **Isaiah 30:1** and **Proverbs 3:5**.

Can you see this convicting element of God even in the Old Testament?

Thought questions: When was the last time you were convicted? Are you being convicted today?

Conviction is always evidence that the Holy Spirit is at work, which is evidence that you are still coming to Christ. Inversely, a lack of conviction is evidence that one is no longer coming to Christ, or never actually has.

3. Our last thought to consider is the danger of rejecting the convicting influence of the Holy Spirit. What does the Bible call this?

a. Read **Ephesians 4:30**:

“And _____ not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”

Discuss: Are you in danger of grieving the Holy Spirit?

Appeal:

Do you need God to bring conviction into your life today?