

How Does God Draw People Today?

Does the Bible state clearly how God draws lost people to Him in order that He can save them? Jesus declared in John 6:44, "No man can come to me, except the Father that sent me draw him." In the next verse, John 6:45, Jesus explains how the drawing takes place: "It is written in the prophets, And they shall all be taught of God. Every one that has heard from the Father, and has learned, comes unto me."

God does not send a direct or miraculous operation of the Holy Spirit on the hearts of alien sinners to convert them. The Holy Spirit uses his sword, which is the word of God (Eph. 6:17). With this sword, the word of God, the Spirit convicts and converts lost sinners.

Conviction: "And he, when he is come, will convict the world in respect of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to the Father, and ye behold me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world hath been judged (John 16:8-11)."

Conversion: "Let all the house of Israel therefore know assuredly, that God hath made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom ye crucified. Now when they heard (this,) they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Brethren, what shall we do? And Peter (said) unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:36-38)."

Paul shows in 2 Thess. 2:13-14 that Christ calls people through the gospel: "For that God chose you from the beginning unto salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth: 14 whereunto he called you through our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." In Rom. 10:17, he taught that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. Therefore Christ calls people through the "word of truth, the gospel of your salvation (Eph. 1:13)."

We must allow God to draw us by teaching us; and then we must obey His gospel. Severe consequences result from not obeying God. "And to you that are afflicted rest with us, at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with the angels of his power in flaming fire, rendering vengeance to them that know not God, and to them that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus: who shall suffer punishment, (even) eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might (2 Thess. 1:7-9).