

















"Love the sinner, hate the sin"

"The truth is like a lion; you don't have to defend it. Let it loose; it will defend itself."



"Pray as though everything depends on God. Work as though everything depended on you."



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- Born in Thagaste, Africa
- Father Patricus [Pagan]
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Before Conversion

- Rhetoric
- Philosophy
- Astrology
- Law
- Poetry
- Public Debate



Before Conversion

Proverbs 10:19 (NKJV) In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.



After Conversion

- Theologian
- Prolific Writer
 - 100 books
 - 300 letters
 - 500 sermons
- His Opinions Valued



Two most popular Books

- Confessions
- City of God

Augustine's Conversion



Matthew 19:23(NKJV)

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a <u>rich man</u> to enter the kingdom of heaven.

1 Corinthians 8:1b (NKJV)

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Meaning –a deeper more perfect knowledge.

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Meaning - Self-inflated, arrogant, proud

Augustine's Conversion

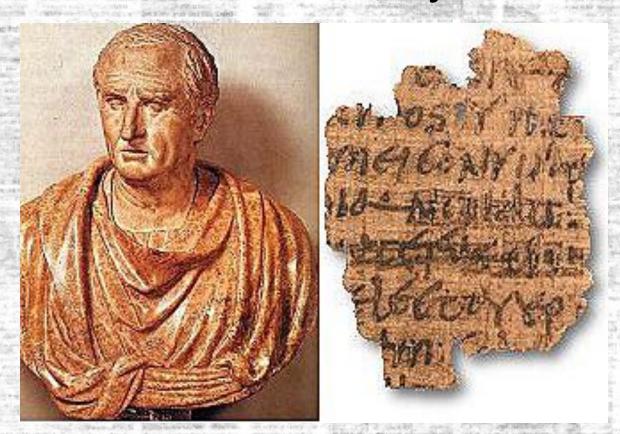
- School in Madaura
- Back in Thagaste
- School in Carthage
- Meets the "Wreckers"
- His father dies
- A son is born
- Starts a long-term relationship



Augustine's Conversion

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"The Hortensius" by Cicero



Colossians 2:8-10 (NKJV)

8 Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. 9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.



Augustine's Conversion

- Manichean 9-10 years
- Meets Manichean bishop
- Moves to Rome
- Moves to Milan
- He tells Monica he is no longer a Manichaeism

Augustine's Conversion

- Monica arranges a marriage
- Bishop Ambrose
- Contemplates Christianity
- While under a fig tree He hears "take up and read"

Isaiah 30:21 (NKJV)

"Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left."

Call to Ministry

- Returns to Thagaste
- Tranquil life of prayer and study
- Establishes a Monastery
- Son dies
- Visits Hippo [60 miles north]
- Ordained a priest
- Ordained an assistant bishop
- Becomes Bishop of Hippo

Pelaguis Controversy

- Origin of Sin
- Wickedness of Man
- Predestination
- Man Choice

Biblical Answer: Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as through one man [Adam] sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."

Donatists Controversy

- Donatists demanded morally correct behavior
- Absolute holiness is required to serve God
- Augustine understood grace and fought against this heresy

Biblical Answer: Romans 3:23

"for <u>all have sinned</u> and fall short of the glory of God"

Why do these Controversy Matter?

- His works strongly affected the ideologies of several church figures
- Reformation leaders such as <u>Martin Luther</u> and <u>John Calvin</u> looked to <u>Augustine for</u> <u>inspiration</u>

 Many modern Reformed theologians <u>still look to him</u> as a key source for their own writings.

- Much of Reformed doctrine
 - Predestination
 - original sin
 - Free will
 - Grace
- Has been <u>attributed to the</u> work of Augustine.

- Roman Catholicism gleaned much from Augustine's writings
 - Infant baptism
 - Perpetual virginity of Mary
 - Real presence of Christ in the Eucharist
 - Purgatory
 - No millennial reign of Christ

Biblical Answer: Colossians 2:8-10

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Psalm 119:10-12

- 10 With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments!
- ¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.
- 12 Blessed *are* You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes.

Psalm 119:15-16

I will meditate on <u>Your precepts</u>, And contemplate <u>Your ways</u>. 16 I will delight myself in Your statues; I will not forget Your word.

Augustine's Last Book Retractions

- The Older vs. Younger Augustine
 - Younger more outspoken
 - Younger more confident
 - Older more reflective
 - Older more humble

Lessons Learned

- Study the Bible
- Study all Scriptures
- We have limited knowledge
- Beware of Worldly Philosophy
- Beware of Traditions of Men

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