

An “Exceptional” Lesson

by Gene Taylor

The word “**except**” is found frequently in the Bible. It often implies something *conditional*. It is synonymous with “*unless*.” This can be illustrated in a passage or two and can help enlighten the serious student.

*“And he said, How can I, **except** some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him”* (Acts 8:31, **KJV**). This is the reply of the Ethiopian eunuch to Philip when asked if he understood what he read. He wanted Philip to teach him concerning the Christ. No one accidentally learns the truth. All must be taught. The emphasis is not on the man doing the guiding, but on the one needing the guidance.

*“And said, Verily I say unto you, **Except** ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven”* (Matt. 18:3). Jesus is teaching us that conversion is essential to entering the kingdom of God. Conversion is a change in spiritual life from sin to righteousness.

Why not obey God’s Word and be converted so that you may abide in Christ and receive an eternal reward?

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