

She knew and without doubt she was filled with pure joy and happiness and satisfaction that she was traveling a new path, a path that she would never depart from. The rasping torture which was her remuneration after each sinful exploit was gone. She had serenity at last. Quietly and silently she left. She had found "the better part," and somehow she knew that "it would not be taken away from her." She knew she would never again be hungry!

It behooves us to stop and rest a while and think. What took place at the home of Simon the Pharisee should be given our best consideration. In that home, that evening, the forces of Heaven and Hell were at war with each other, and it was the mental honesty and sincerity of this poor wretched sinner that won the battle over evil. Such was her conduct that our Divine Master observed the total lack of evil deceit in her. No doubt Magdalen had heard about the Carpenter from Nazareth. Everybody knew about Him and talked about Him. There can be little doubt that she had seen Him at one place or another and heard Him teach and preach. Sincerely hungry for help, and with honest disposition of soul, the help did come and the grace of God surely touched her - and she could not resist its force. Without knowing it, she underwent a reaction to the grace at work in her, and as soon as the opportunity presented itself, she went straightaway to where Jesus was, in the home of Simon the Pharisee. Her mind was made up, and with fixed intention she determined never to turn away from her newly found God - her Master. This was CONVERSIO in the strictest meaning of the word, and her turning did away with every obstacle that was a hindrance in her journey toward perfection. She "had chosen the better part." Her conversion, contrition, and sorrow were certain. Her resolution was without reservation. Her purpose of amendment was determined. She trusted, she believed, she was unafraid, and she was ready to do whatever it took to prove the purity of her intention. She approached the house and entered in, unannounced, mindless of everyone present and she presented herself at the feet of her Master. Her actions, performed in total silence, clearly demonstrated her honest desire for mercy and forgiveness. SHE GOT BOTH! Let us take this opportunity to look at ourselves, each one individually, as Magdalen looked at herself. For a moment let us study the lifestyle she was stepping out of and the entanglements and entrenchments which dominated her life. Study the lack of mental deceitfulness in her as she evaluated each and every fruitless and painful experience which shredded the fabric of her honor as a woman. Study her humility of soul and the sorrow that brought her to the moment of her turning. As we look back upon ourselves, there are many things that took place which should never have taken place. But they did! He, on His part, certainly took note of her, and without comment watched