

"FROM PAUPERS TO PRINCES"**Introduction**

1. About 8 times: "The Lord". What a God!
2. God can make sinners into saints!
3. Just as he can make a barren woman bear

1. HOW GOD SEES ALL OF US BEFORE CONVERSION

- 1) v.7: "poor...dust...needy...dunghill"
 - (i) one reason the Bible is scorned: it humbles us
 - (ii) this is the condition we are all in: Psalm 51
 - (iii) so God sees us – not a pleasant sight
ILLUSTRATION: A lady in a coach – curtains
OBSERVE: God does not close his eyes (v.4-6)
- 2) O let us believe what God here says:
 - (i) "poor": no righteousness / no Father / no wisdom / no light / no hope / no wealth
 - (ii) "dust": bits of cloth to wear / sticks are our homes / bits of paper our money...
 - (iii) "dunghill": a sinful world – men live hardly better than the beasts.
ILLUSTRATION: pigs in Mexico
APPLICATION: God sees mankind in this way

2. HOW GOD "LIFTS" US UP BY THE GOSPEL

- 1) v.7: "raises up" / "lifts"
OBSERVE: God does this by his saving grace
- 2) God has many times done this in wonderful love and kindness:
 - (i) David: see his life
 - (ii) The apostles: Peter, etc – look at them
 - (iii) The gospels: Bartimaeus, etc
 - (iv) Famous Christians: Bunyan, etc.
DOCTRINE: Do not despise the poor who believe in Christ

– do not despise yourself.

- 3) God "lifts" us in this way:
 - (i) he opens our eyes spiritually to see our need
ILLUSTRATION: Legion
 - (ii) he points our eyes upward to heaven
 - (iii) he shows us Jesus Christ as the Way
 - (iv) he gives us faith and repentance
ILLUSTRATION: Dunkie Donaldson
APPLICATION: God can change every one of us!

3. WHAT GOD WILL DO FOR ALL BELIEVERS AT LAST

- 1) v.8: "set us with princes...of his people".
- 2) Who are these princes? The saints of God:
 - (i) Abraham – recall the case of Lazarus
 - (ii) Israel = "a prince with God"
 - (iii) They sit at last on thrones: Rev.
 - (iv) They have crowns of glory
 - (v) They are near to God and to Christ
 - (vi) By adoption, as God's sons
 - (vii) Their home is a palace of glory
- 3) Why does God do this for "beggars"?
 - (i) to display His love and goodness
 - (ii) to confound all earthly wisdom
 - (iii) that it may redound to His glory
 Look at this: "It doth not appear...shall be"
APPLICATION: Here's your chance to be a prince!

CONCLUSION

1. Do you see the truth of it?
2. Will you ask God to lift you?
3. God can do it for YOU.

PSALM**113: 1 – 9****118: 16 – 23****116: 13 – 19**