

Christians: Almost or Altogether?

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Acts 26:2.
- B. Paul was not defending himself before Agrippa--he was defending the gospel.
- C. Many do not know what it really means to be a Christian.
- D. Christianity is a life that is received.

II. Christian.

- A. This is a despised word. (Acts 11; 26; 1 Peter 4)
- B. The Christian faith is a despised faith.
- C. A Christian is a disciple who is on the way.
- D. The name Christian was a ridiculed word.
- E.. People became Christians by believing and turning.

III. Persuade.

- A. The gospel appeals to the whole man.
- B. Paul appealed to Agrippa's mind and emotions.

IV. Almost.

- A. Paul's argument was so effective that Festus and Agrippa attacked him.
- B. An almost Christian is no Christian at all. Almost gets one close, but it does not get one in.
- C. The altogether Christian reigns and rules.

Application questions:

1. What does it mean to be a Christian?

2. What does it mean to be an almost Christian in contrast to an altogether Christian? Explain.

3. How would you respond to someone who says that one shouldn't argue for his or her religious beliefs? Explain.
