The Marvelous Change in Conversion  
1 Pet 2:9

Introduction:
A. The gospel of Christ does not merely amend - it completely changes our character.
   1. Old things pass away all things become new.
   2. Our views, dispositions, and actions are all changed.
   3. A change from darkness into marvelous light.
B. Our text suggests three things about one’s conversion by the gospel.

Discussion:
I. One’s Pre-Conversion Condition – "Darkness."
A. Darkness of spiritual ignorance.
   1. Of God, His Son, His mercy and His will (cf. Heb. 10:1-3)
   2. Of the condemnation of our sins. (John 3:18-21)
B. Darkness of spiritual slavery.
   1. Sold under sin (Rom. 7:14).
   2. Slaves to sin and passion (John 8:34; Rom. 6:16-22).
   3. Unaware of own slavery (John 8:32-34)
C. Darkness of hopelessness.
   1. Without God and without hope. (Eph. 2:12).
   2. All who hope do not have hope – such a thing as false hope.
D. Darkness of spiritual death.
   1. Death while living (Eph. 2:1; 1 Tim. 5:6)
   2. Eternally dead (Rom. 6:23; cf. 2 Thess. 1:9; Matt. 25:30)
II. One’s Perceptive Change – "Out of Darkness Into...Light."
A. A change of life as different as day and night (cf. 1 Cor. 6:9-11).
B. A change from the power darkness into light/kingdom. (Col. 1:12,13).
C. A change into "His marvelous light." (Cf. 1 John 1:5)
D. A change effected by the gospel (cf. 2 Cor. 4:4)
   1. "Called into light" by the gospel (2 Thess. 2:14)
   2. Saved by the gospel (1 Cor 15:1-2)
   3. Saved in obedience to gospel (2 Thess. 1:8)
III. One’s Post-Conversion Conduct – "Show Forth the Praises of Him."
A. By using the scriptures to tell others about Him (Acts 18:28).
   1. His greatness and power.
   2. His love and mercy.
   3. His will and commandments.
   4. His exceeding great and precious promises.
B. By displaying his image in our lives – reflecting his light (1 Thess. 5:5; 1 John 1:7; Matt. 5:16)
   1. By being obedient as He was obedient. (Heb. 5:8-9)
   2. By walking in His steps (1 Pet. 2:21).
   3. By holy living (1 Pet. 1:16)

Conclusion:
A. Let the sinner know what his true condition is – darkness.
B. Let the sinner know that he can be translated out of darkness.
C. Let the Christian know how to show forth the praises of Him in word and deed.