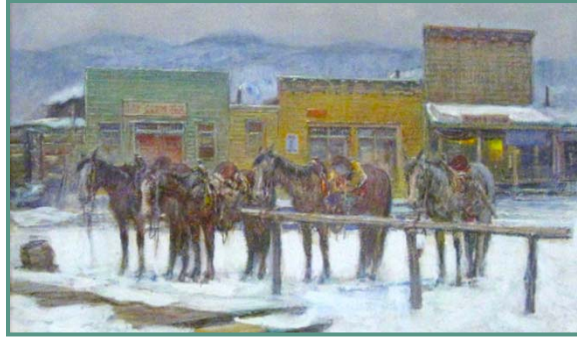


# Changing Hitching Posts

A young farmer in the West had a reputation for frequenting the local bar, which was located in the town's hotel. Eventually, he was converted to a belief in Christ.

Whenever he visited town, however, he continued to tie his team of horses to the hotel hitching post. An elderly deacon from the church in town couldn't help but notice this practice.

"George," he said to the farmer, "I'm a good deal older than you, and I know you will pardon me if I make a suggestion from my experience. No matter how strong you think you are, take my advice and change your hitching post at once."



There are times when "changing your hitching post" is an important part of one's Christian witness. A couple in a sophisticated urban area discovered this truth in a slightly different way after their conversion. They had long been part of a social set in which alcohol freely flowed.

After their salvation experience, they found that when they tried to tell their friends about Christ, they were highly ineffective as long as they were holding glasses in their hands – even though their glasses contained a soft drink. When they switched to holding coffee cups, however, people noticed the changes in the rest of their behavior, which gave credibility to their testimony.

This is certain: When you claim to be a follower of Christ, people expect to see a difference in how you act.

– Beecher Hunter