THE BULWARK

A WHOLE NEW PURPOSE

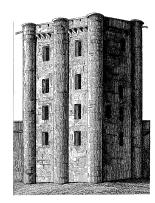
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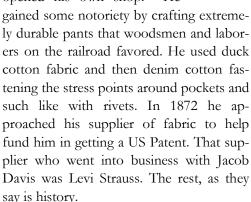
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"Mark well her bulwarks, consider her palaces, that you may tell it to the generation following" Psalms 48:13

Jacob Youphes was born in 1831 in Russia. Like so many others, he emigrated to the United States and shortly after arriving in

New York City changed his name to Jacob Davis. He was trained as a tailor but was unafraid to work in other trades. His travels eventually led him to San Francisco, then to Canada where he met and married Annie Parksher. The couple found their way back to California and Reno, Nevada. It was in Reno that Jacob went back to working as tailor and opened his own shop. He



A change in purpose, what was used one way could now be used another. Isn't the same true with respect to one's life in Christ? Mark recounts in chapter one of the book that bears his name, and verses sixteen through twenty, how Jesus found four fishermen who were engaged in what they saw as their purpose in life and called them to a different purpose. "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Indeed, with this new purpose set for their lives, these men along with their compatriots who stepped away from what they

thought was their purpose in life, One was a tax-collector another thought to be a carpenter, one was involved in political activism and the others most likely tradesmen of one sort or another. But they were taught and trained so that when the time came they would be able to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. They had a whole new purpose.



Paul's life was changed dramatically. He embraced a whole new purpose, a new direction in life. "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me." (Galatians 2:20) Conversely he also wrote, "But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that I count, I count all things loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord..." (Philippians 3:7-8) A whole new purpose. What was, was; what is, is. That which is, is far superior.

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect." (Romans 12:2) A change and a new purpose in life. (wbe)