

## Merle Haggard

### "Conversion Of Ronnie Jones"

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(Tommy Collins)

Ronnie Jones decided to settle down so he married  
Annie Birch  
Now Annie hadn't been around too much she mostly  
only went to church  
Right away she started in insistin' that he come on up  
and join  
He said I'll tell you what I'll do to settle this by dog I'll  
flip a coin.

Preacher used some fancy words but Ronnie tried his  
best to understand  
Cause he loved his little Annie and for her he wanted to  
be a better man  
But of all the things they told him it seemed that he  
remembered only one  
He said I guess I'll have to go up there and tell 'em  
everything I've done.

The Sunday meeting just took up and Ronnie stood  
outside half scared to death  
Regretin' what he had to do in there and tried hard to  
get his breath  
There didn't seem to be much use to put off what he  
had to do no more  
So he backed way up and took a run and bolted  
through the double lobby door.

--- Instrumental ---

Annie's eyes began to overflow in tears of joy at what  
she saw  
The preacher took him by the hand and said bless you  
my boy tell it all  
While every head was bowed in prayer some women  
slipped outside as if  
to pray  
Fearin' what the spirit might cause Ronnie and his  
circumstance to say.

All their fears were justified his simple life became an  
open book  
Names like Dorris Cunningham Wanda Webb even  
Marlene Cook  
Another kind of fire began to burn down in the depths  
of Annie's soul  
She turned on Ron and used some words nobody'd  
ever heard her say before  
Sometimes we know not what we pray for...

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