was all this happened so, and how near I come to being lost and going
to hell. And went on thinking. And got to thinking over our trip down
the river; and I see Jim before me all the time: in the day and in the
night-time, sometimes moonlight, sometimes storms, and we a-floating
along, talking and singing and laughing. But somehow I couldn’t seem to
strike no places to harden me against him, but only the other kind. I’d
see him standing my watch on top of his’n, ’stead of calling me, so I
could go on sleeping; and see him how glad he was when I come back
genuine excitement
out of the fog; and when I come to him again in the swamp, up there
where the feud was; and such-like times; and would always call me
honey, and pet me and do everything he could think of for me, and how
good he always was, and at last I struck the time I saved him by telling
the men we had small-pox aboard, and he was so grateful, and said I was
the best friend old Jim ever had in the world, and the ONLY one he’s
got now; and then I happened to look around and see that paper.

It was a close place. I took it up, and held it in my hand. I was a-
trembling, because I’d got to decide, forever, betwixt two things, and I
knew it. I studied a minute, sort of holding my breath, and then says
to myself:

‘All right, then, I’ll GO to hell’—and tore it up.”

Guiding Questions:
What is the significance of the conflict within this passage?
How does Twain use religion to emphasize the changes in Huck?