

The Acts of the Apostles I*The Salvation of Saul***Acts 9:1-43**

- I. SAUL'S SALVATION (Acts 9:1-9)
 - A. Saul's Pursuit of Christians (Acts 9:1-2)
 - i. Slaughter against the disciples (Acts 9:1; Acts 8:3)
 - ii. Letters to Damascus (Acts 9:2; Acts 8:4)
 - B. Saul's Encounter with Christ (Acts 9:3-5)
 - i. The power of Christ (Acts 9:3; 1 Timothy 6:14-16)
 - ii. The message of Christ (Acts 9:4) – Christ and His people are one (Acts 5:14; Ephesians 5:30)
 - iii. The conviction of Saul (Acts 9:5; Acts 7:58; Acts 8:1; Acts 22:19-20)
 1. Sources of conviction
 - a) The Father (John 6:44)
 - b) The Son (John 12:31-33)
 - c) The Holy Spirit (John 16:7-11)
 - d) The word of God (Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12)
 2. The instrument of conviction – our conscience (Romans 2:14, 15; John 8:9)
 - C. Saul's Surrender to Christ (Acts 9:6)
 - i. Saul's question of surrender (Joshua 5:14) – His salvation (Acts 9:17; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 15:8) – Ananias call him brother (Acts 9:17)
 - ii. Christ as Lord
 1. Occurs at salvation (Acts 9:6; Acts 16:31; Romans 10:9, 10)
 2. He is still our Lord when we disobey (1 Corinthians 1:7-10)

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth **the Lord Jesus**, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

- iii. The salvation of the eunuch and Saul compared
 1. It is important to note God's method of salvation set forth in these events.
 2. The eunuch (Acts 8:35-39)

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- a) Heard through the word of God the truth of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ
 - b) Was saved when he confessed from his heart belief in what was shown to him from the word of God.
 - 3. Saul (Acts 9:3-6)
 - a) Was converted on the road to Damascus
 - b) Born again on this road confessing the crucified and risen Christ as Lord and was made a new-made man.
(Acts 9:5-6, 20)
 - iv. Christ's answer of service (Joshua 5:15)
 - D. Saul's Wait in Damascus (Acts 9:7-9)
 - i. The men with Saul (Acts 9:7; Acts 22:9)
 - ii. The blindness of Saul (Acts 9:8)
 - iii. The three-day wait (Acts 9:9)
- II. SAUL'S COMMISSION (Acts 9:10-18)
- A. The Call of Ananias (Acts 9:10-14)
 - i. The command of the Lord (Acts 9:10-12)
 - ii. The fear of Ananias (Acts 9:13-14)
 - B. The Choosing of Saul (Acts 9:15-16)
 - i. Called to witness (Acts 9:15)
 - 1. To the Gentiles (Acts 21:19; Romans 11:13; Galatians 2:8-9; Ephesians 3:8; 2 Timothy 1:11)
 - 2. To kings (Acts 26:1-2; Acts 27:24)
 - 3. To Israel (Acts 13:14-16; Romans 10:1)
 - ii. Called to suffer (Acts 9:16; Acts 14:19; 2 Corinthians 11:23-28; 2 Corinthians 12:7)
 - C. The Ministry of Ananias (Acts 9:17-18)
 - i. To speak (Acts 9:17)
 - ii. To heal (Acts 9:18a, v. 12)
 - iii. To baptize (Acts 9:18b)

III. SAUL'S EARLY MINISTRY (Acts 9:19-31)

- A. His ministry in Damascus (Acts 9:19-22)
 - i. With the disciples (Acts 9:19)
 - 1. Physical strength (Mark 6:31)
 - 2. Spiritual fellowship (Romans 1:12)
 - ii. In the synagogues (Acts 9:20-21; Acts 13:5)
 - 1. Preaching Christ (Acts 9:20)
 - 2. Causing amazement (Acts 9:21)
 - iii. Among the Jews (Acts 9:22)
 - 1. Increasing in strength (1 Thessalonians 4:1; 2 Peter 3:18)
 - 2. Confounding the Jews

- B. His Escape from Damascus (Acts 9:23-25) – Note: Saul's trip into Arabia as described in Galatians 1:15-18 probably occurred in the "many days" of verse 23. Somewhere early to middle of the time he is recorded as being in Damascus.
 - i. The counsel of the Jews (Acts 9:23; John 11:53)
 - ii. The trap laid by the Jews (Acts 9:24)
 - iii. Saul's escape over the wall (Acts 9:25; Joshua 2:15)

- C. His Visit to Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-29)
 - i. The fear of the Jerusalem disciples (Acts 9:26; Acts 9:13-14)
 - ii. The kindness of Barnabas (Acts 9:27; Acts 4:36) – "son of consolation"
 - 1. Barnabas = "son of consolation"
 - 2. Define: "*consolation*" = c. 1400 " 'alleviation of misery or distress of mind, mitigation of grief or anxiety' from Old French *consolacion* 'solace, comfort; delight, pleasure' "
 - 3. Scriptural usage:
 - a. Christ was the consolation of Israel (Luke 2:25)
 - b. Barnabas "the son of consolation" (Acts 4:36)
 - c. Consolation of the confirmation to not keep the law (Acts 15:31)
 - d. "our consolation aboundeth by Christ" (2 Corinthians 1:5)
 - e. An everlasting consolation (2 Thessalonians 2:16)
 - f. A strong consolation (Hebrews 6:18)
 - iii. Saul's ministry in Jerusalem (Acts 9:28-29)

- D. His Return to Tarsus (Acts 9:30-31)
 - i. His escape to Caesarea (Acts 9:30a)
 - ii. His visit to Tarsus (Acts 9:30b; Acts 22:3)
 - iii. The blessings upon the churches (Acts 9:31)
 - 1. Their edification (Ephesians 4:12)
 - 2. Their multiplication

IV. PETER'S PARALLEL MINISTRY (Acts 9:32-43)

- A. In Lydda (Acts 9:32-35)
 - i. His ministry to the saints (Acts 9:32; 1 Corinthians 16:15)

1 Corinthians 16:15 I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and *that* they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints.)

- ii. His ministry to the sick (Acts 9:33-44)
 - 1. The sickness of Aeneas (Acts 9:33)
 - 2. The healing ministry of Peter (Acts 9:34)
 - iii. Aeneas was healed immediately (Acts 9:34)
 - 1. Note the other miracles where the power of God worked immediately.
 - 2. The "immediate" working of miracles in the book of Acts
 - a. Peter and the lame man (Acts 3:7)
 - b. The falling of the scales from Saul's eyes (Acts 9:18)
 - c. The healing of Aeneas (Acts 9:34)
 - d. The falling of darkness upon Elymas the sorcerer (Acts 13:11)
 - e. The immediate opening of the jail cells (Acts 16:26)
 - iv. His ministry to the souls of men (Acts 9:35)
- B. In Joppa (Acts 9:36-43) – Modern day Tel-Aviv (approx. 30 miles south of Caesarea).
 - i. The death of Tabitha (Acts 9:36-37)
 - ii. The call for Peter (Acts 9:38-39)
 - iii. The raising of Tabitha (Acts 9:40-41)
 - iv. Revival in Joppa (Acts 9:42-43)