

6/7/2020

The Conversion of Saul

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Acts 9:1-19 ¹Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples of the Lord. He approached the high priest ²and requested letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any men or women belonging to the Way, he could bring them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³As Saul drew near to Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, **“Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?”** ⁵“Who are You, Lord?” Saul asked. **“I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,”** He replied. ⁶**“Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”** ⁷The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless. They heard the voice but did not see anyone. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could not see a thing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and he did not eat or drink anything. ¹⁰In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, **“Ananias!”** “Here I am, Lord,” he answered. ¹¹**“Get up!”** the Lord told him. **“Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹²In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”** ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, many people have told me about this man and all the harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And now he is here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on Your name.” ¹⁵**“Go!”** said the Lord. **“This man is My chosen instrument to carry My name before the Gentiles and their kings, and before the people of Israel. ¹⁶I will show him how much he must suffer for My name.”** ¹⁷So Ananias went to the house, and when he arrived, he placed his hands on Saul. “Brother Saul,” he said, “the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸At that instant, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and his sight was restored. He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength. And he spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. BSB

I. Here are the details of the Apostle Paul’s conversion.

- A. He was the main **persecutor** of Christians. V.1-2
- B. He had a **supernatural** encounter with Jesus Christ. V. 3-6
- C. He was made **blind** and did what he was told to do. V.7-9
- D. Ananias was told to go and to **minister** to Saul. V.10-12
- E. Ananias was hesitant because of Saul’s **reputation**. V. 13-14
- F. The Lord told him that Paul will suffer for His name and that Ananias needs to just be **obedient**. V.15-16
- G. Ananias obeyed and **prayed** over Saul. V. 17
- H. Saul was healed and began to be **discipled** as a follower of Jesus Christ. V.18

II. What can we learn from Saul’s conversion.

- A. **No one** is beyond being saved.
- B. God sometimes **intervenes**.
- C. It is crucial that we obey what we **know** He wants from us.
- D. The Holy Spirit is the **proof** of our conversion.
- E. We must **be** disciples and learn to **make** disciples.