

## 17—Conversion of Saul of Tarsus

### Acts 9:1-31

1. Acts 1:8 predicts the gospel's progression starting in Jerusalem and spreading "*to the end of the earth.*" In order to accomplish this mission, God still had one more person He would enlist—Saul of Tarsus. What does Acts 9:15-16 tell us about the mission God had for Saul?

2. Yet, what do the following passages indicate about Saul prior to his conversion to Christ?

Acts 7:58-8:1—

Acts 8:3—

Acts 9:1-2—

3. Saul was on the road to "Damascus" (Acts 9:3). We have already seen him in Jerusalem (7:58-8:1). What can you learn about Damascus from the 1<sup>st</sup> century? What does the fact Saul is known in some of the larger cities and in some of the larger synagogues indicate about him? What would be the reaction to the conversion of this well-known figure?



4. What happens as Saul travels towards Damascus (Acts 9:3-9)? Who appears to him (9:5; 1 Corinthians 9:1; 15:8-9)?

5. Was Saul "saved" on the road to Damascus? Is he acting like a saved man (Acts 9:9)?

*Sunday AM Bible Study (05.09.2021)*

6. Who else does the Lord speak to in this passage (Acts 9:10)? What mission does he have for this individual and what was the initial reaction of this disciple to the mission God gives him (Acts 9:11-16)?

7. What further instructions is Saul given once Ananias finds him (Acts 9:17-19; cp. Acts 22:16)? NOW is he acting like a saved man (Acts 9:18-19)?

8. It is amazing how God can take a man full of zeal and leadership skills, though misdirected, and turn those abilities into assets for the church. What do the following passages indicate about Saul after his conversion? What does he teach us about true conversion?

Acts 9:20-22—

Acts 9:26-28—

Acts 9:29-30—

9. Consider some of the key figures whom Saul has had contact with in the book of Acts. How do you think each of these individuals may have played a part in the conversion process?

- Stephen (Acts 7:59-60)—
- Ananias (Acts 9:17-19)—
- Barnabas (Acts 9:26-27)—

10. Acts 9:23 says “after many days were past.” How does Galatians 1:17-24 help us fill in the gaps of chronology concerning what happened after Saul’s conversion?

11. Because of Saul’s conversion how are the churches impacted (Acts 9:31)? Yet, what would this new mission in Jesus Christ lead to in Saul’s own personal life (cp. Acts 9:16)?