

Acts 9 Outline

- * Vs. 1-18
 - * Saul's conversion
- * Vs. 19-31
 - * Saul preaches in Damascus and Jerusalem
- * Vs. 32-43
 - * Peter's miracles in Lydda and Joppa

Who is Saul?

- * Acts 8
- * Acts 9
- * Acts 22
- * Acts 26
- * Philippians 3
- * 1 Timothy 1

Acts 9

- * Damascus – 140-150 miles from Jerusalem
 - * In Old Testament, capital of Syria
- * Synagogue – a local group of Jews who met, worshiped, studied the law
 - * Sought their cooperation
 - * After his conversion, would go to synagogues to find people to teach

A Composite of the Event

- * About noon, near Damascus (22:6)
- * A light shone around him from heaven (9:3)
 - * Brighter than the sun (9:13)
 - * Shone around him and those who journeyed with him (22:13)
- * Saul fell to the ground and heard a voice (9:4; 22:7)
- * All fell to the ground (22:14)
- * The men accompanying him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one (9:7)
 - * They saw the light and were afraid, but they did not “hear the voice of Him who spoke to me” (22:9)
- * Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened, he saw no one (9:8)

Saul Saw Jesus

- * 1 Corinthians 9:1; 15:8
- * Ananias said he did
 - * Acts 9:17; 22:14-15
- * Jesus said he did
 - * Acts 26:16
- * Barnabas said he did
 - * Acts 9:27
- * Qualified as an apostle

What Saul Now Knows – Acts 9:6

- * Jesus is alive
- * Jesus is resurrected!
- * Jesus is Lord
- * Saul needs to do something

Another Servant

- * Ananias
- * “Here I am, Lord”
- * “... and Ananias went his way and entered the house...”
- * “... told what you [Saul] must do” (9:6)

“Laying hands on him...” 9:17

- * Purpose in this case?
 - * To receive his sight (9:12)
- * Other cases
 - * To impart miraculous powers – 8:14; 19:6 (apostles)
 - * Blessing to do some work – 13:1-4
- * Then when did Saul receive the measure of the Holy Spirit that apostles received?
 - * We are not told

Why Did Jesus Appear to Saul?

- * Not to save him – 9:6
 - * Still needed a preacher
 - * Penitent, but not saved
 - * Praying, but not saved
 - * Need to “Arise, and be baptized...” - 22:16
- * But for this purpose – 26:16-18

How was Saul saved?

- * Believed (9:6)
- * Godly sorrow led to repentance (9:9, 11)
- * Confessed Jesus as Lord (9:6)
- * Was baptized (9:18; 22:16)
- * Sins washed away by the blood of Jesus when baptized (22:16; Rom 6:3-4)

The gospel plan repeated

- * Preacher sent
- * Preacher teaches words of life, including commands to be obeyed
 - * What did Ananias preach to Saul?
- * The subject responds by submitting to baptism, predicated upon his
 - * Belief
 - * Repentance
 - * Confession
- * Blessing results

The Bible vs. Denominational Teaching

- * Denominational Teaching
 - * Sinner's prayer
 - * “Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a **sinner**, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior.”
 - * Baptism a “celebration”
- * New Testament Teaching
 - * Baptism puts one into Christ (Gal 3:26-27)
 - * Outside Christ before baptism
 - * Baptism is for remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
 - * Cannot get into Christ through prayer (Acts 22:16)
- * Which do you teach and practice?

A Lesson in Evidences

- * Saul
 - * Well-educated
 - * Does not seem to be one easily moved by fable
- * Changed 180 degrees
- * Died for his faith