

# SAUL OF TARSUS

Acts 9:1-20; 22:4-16

## INTRODUCTION

- A. There are a number of things about the conversion of SAUL that are interesting to note
- B. Certainly we recognize that there was a miracle involved in the conversion of Saul
- C. But did God use this miracle to convert him or to save him.
- D. Before we discuss this aspect we want to look at something else in regard to the conversion of Saul

## DISCUSSION

### I. SAUL WAS AN UNLIKELY PROSPECT

- A. He thought he was doing right Prov 14:12; Acts 26:9
- B. He had a good conscience Acts 23:1
- C. He gloried in his race Phil 3:4-9
- D. He persecuted Christians Acts 26:10, 11 Gal. 1:13 (135 miles to Damascus)
- E. Was a leader in "his religion" Gal 1:14
- F. Was in an unfavorable state of mind Acts 7:58; 8:3
- G. Yet he was converted - we need to remember what we were Titus 3:1-3

### II. WHAT THE LORD DID AND DID NOT DO WHEN HE APPEARED TO SAUL

- A. Did not appear to him to pardon him
  - 1. Law of pardon had already been given Mk 16:16 Acts 2:38
  - 2. Can't be born separate from the law of procreation - physical or spiritual Jhn 3:3, 5
- B. Did not appear to him to convert him Psa 19:7; Acts 9:6
- C. Did not appear to him to save him if so he was saved while in his sins Acts 22:16
- D. Did appear to him to make him an apostle
  - 1. A minister and a witness
  - 2. To be an apostle - must see the Lord Lk 1:2; Acts 22:14 Acts 1:21,22
- E. To direct him to a preacher to tell him what to do Acts 9:6

### III. WHAT DID THE PREACHER DO IN THIS CONVERSION

- A. Preached to him (brought a message) Acts 9:17; 22:14-16
- B. This was God's way "Earthen Vessel" 2Cor 4:7
- C. We are the "earthen vessel" today. Can God use us to reach someone as He did Ananias?
- D. No He is not going to send an angel to tell us to go, but He has told us to "GO" Mk 16:15 as it relates to Eph 3:1-10

### IV. WHAT DID SAUL DO (Exactly what men today must do)

- A. Heard the truth Rom 10:17 (heard Stephen in Acts 7)
- B. He believed - became convinced Acts 9:6
- C. He repented (mind and conduct) Acts 17:30; 9:9

D. He confessed Christ Acts 9:5

E. Had seen the light - heard - believed - repented  
confessed - but still not saved what more was needed

F. He was baptized to have his sins washed away  
Acts 22:16

## CONCLUSION

- A. Saul was told to do what a lot of preachers today say you don't have to do
- B. The Lord will put people in touch with a preacher today (not in the same way he did Saul) Matt. 7:7, 8. But as we respond to the command to "GO" the Lord is putting people "in touch" with a preacher or teacher of His will Note Jhn 7:17 (NRSV)
- C. He will save people and add them to the church today just as He did Saul of Tarsus if they will respond in obedience as Saul did Acts 2:38,47