

**PAUL'S CONVERSION:
WHAT HAPPENED AT JUDAS' HOME?**

1. Text: Acts 9:8-18
2. This is the second of lessons on the conversion of Saul or Paul. The first concerned the episode on the road; now we deal with what happened in Damascus.

I. The Person Involved

1. Ananias was a disciple in the city, and was a devout man according to Moses' law, with a good reputation among the Jews there.
2. By a vision the Lord told him to go to Saul (9:10)
3. He is reluctant. He explains to the Lord who Saul is. Is this some of Luke's humor?

II. The Place (9:11)

1. Saul was taken blind from the road into the city to Straight Street and the home of Judas. The street which runs a mile from east to west and still exists today.
2. Nothing is known of this Judas. Very popular name at the time.

III. Paul's Mission (9:15)

1. Explained to Ananias, he was to be Christ's chosen vessel, to bear His name before Gentiles, Jews, and Kings.
2. He would suffer for this, as he had caused others to suffer.

IV. The Purpose For The Coming Of Ananias.

1. Notice 9:12: He was to lay hands on him to give him his sight back.
2. Notice 9:17: He put hands on Saul, and said he'd been sent to give Saul sight and so he'd be filled with the Holy Spirit. Notice in comparing 12 and 17 the laying on of hands was for the sight restored. How was he filled with the Holy Spirit?
3. The next verse is perfect parallel: it says the sight came back and he was then baptized. Acts 2:38 says when one is baptized he receives the Holy Spirit.
4. What does brother mean here? (9:17)

V. Possibilities That Are Suggested For Saul's Salvation.

1. Many modern people claim all kinds of things save them. These are answered in this text.
2. Seeing the Lord didn't save Saul. Acts 9:17, 27; 22:14; 26:16.
3. Talking with the Lord did not save Saul.
4. Praying didn't save Him. (9:11)
5. A vision from the Lord didn't. (9:12)
6. Fasting didn't save him. (9:9)
7. A miracle did save him. (9:17-18)

VI. The Pardon Or Salvation Of Saul.

1. He was taught by a human the gospel (Romans 10:17) as all must be.
2. Saul was "subdued but not saved" on the road.
3. Obedience was a part of his salvation. Acts 26:19
4. Faith was, since he was to preach that himself. (26:18)
5. Repentance was, since he himself taught that. (26:20)
6. Baptism washed away his sins (Acts 22:16). He was a sinner with the filth of sin until that cleansing process.

Conclusion: The world, the text, and you.

A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
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