

Acts 9V1-31
THE WORST OF SINNERS

Acts 1v8: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."



#### Acts 9v15

This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles...

#### Paul's Conversion...

- 1. The man he was
- 2. The man he **met**
- 3. The man he **became**

V1-2: Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

Acts 8v3: Saul began to <u>destroy</u> the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

1 Tim 1v15-16: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst. BUT for this very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life.

**Lesson 1:** Conversion is Possible...

**Lesson 1:** Conversion is Possible

**Isaiah 59v1:** Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save...

V3-4: As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul,

Saul, why do you persecute me?"



V5: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied.

"He who expected to enter Damascus in the fullness of his pride and power, as a self confident opponent of the gospel, was actually led into it, humbled and blinded as a captive of the very Christ he opposed"

**John Stott** 

**Lesson 1:** Conversion is Possible

Lesson 2: Conversion is Personal

**V13:** Lord, Ananias answered, I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem

**V15:** Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel.

- 2 key transformations...
- Enemy 

  Brother

- 2 key transformations...
- Enemy 

  Brother
- Blind Sight

# 3) The man he became (v20-31)

V20-21: At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. 21 All those who heard him were astonished and asked, "Isn't he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn't he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?"

# 3) The man he became (v20-31)

**V28:** So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, **speaking boldly** in the name of the Lord.

#### 3) The man he became (v20-31)

**Lesson 1:** Conversion is Possible

**Lesson 2:** Conversion is Personal

**Lesson 3:** Conversion is Pivotal