

IGNITE

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

Conversion

Sunday, June 18, 2023

Acts 9:1-19 (Acts 22:4-ff, 26:3-ff)

Often, when reading Acts 9, we focus our attention on Saul and his experience on the road to Damascus. In reality, while this may be helpful, ultimately the hero of the story is Jesus Christ. As a matter of fact, He's the hero of the entire Bible! The story of Saul's conversion is a description of God's love and sovereign work in salvation. Every conversion story is a description of God's love and sovereign work in salvation. We don't read Scripture to be better informed or better behaved, we read the Bible to know God. The story of Saul's conversion is not primarily concerned with our getting to know Saul who became Paul; it's provided to help us know God.

Saul's conversion reminds us...

- God's grace is greater than your sin.
- God's reach is farther than you can run.

Saul's conversion teaches us...

- God initiates salvation (9:3)
- God brings conviction (9:4)
- God provides redemption (9:5) (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:3-7)
- God guides consecration (9:6-8)
- God invites communion (9:9-18)

Saul's conversion gives us...

- Assurance
- Confidence

Philippians 3:4-11; 1 Timothy 1:13-17

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Perhaps it would be best to end the message today with Paul's own words:

"It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen." 1 Timothy 1:15-17