

Acts 9:1-19a

Called by God to Complete the Campaign

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January 4, 2015

What about New Year's Resolutions?



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Is there a true Change in a
Person

Apart
From God's Transforming Hand?

Jeremiah 13:23 (NASB)

²³ “Can the Ethiopian change his skin
Or the leopard his spots?
Then you also can do good
Who are accustomed to doing evil.

Acts 9:1-19a

How is God going to
reverse this Stubborn
hatred in
Saul making Him
productive for the
Kingdom?



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Other Questions to Ponder?

- 1) How was Saul saved in this Chapter? Was the process different from the way you and I are saved from sin?
- 2) Prior to Acts 9, was the church fully equipped with the needed leadership to fulfill Acts 1:8 or was there a missing element yet to be revealed in God's plan?
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- 6) How was Stephen's Prayer answered, "Do not hold this sin against them?"
- 7) Why aren't the apostles present when Paul receives his commissioning including the filling of the Holy Spirit?

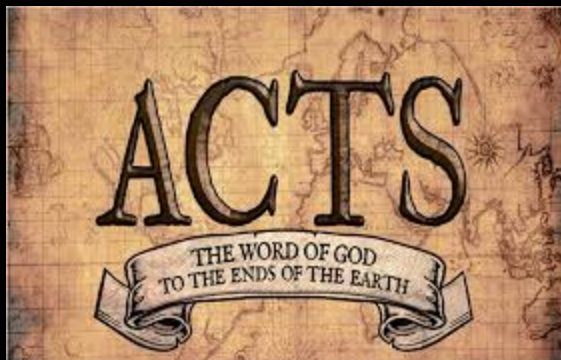
ACTS OUTLINE:

I. The Witness to Jerusalem. 1:1-8:3

II. The Witness to Judea and Samaria 8:4-12:24

III. The Witness to the Ends of the Earth 12:25-21:14

IV. Paul's Trek to Rome (World) 21:15-28:31



ACTS OVERALL THEME:

- Preparation, birth, growth, and establishment of the Church.
- Acts is a bridge book ... “A book of Transition”



ACTS ANSWERS 3 MAIN QUESTIONS:

- 1) What is the **MESSAGE** about Jesus?



QUESTION TWO

2) What is the MISSION of Jesus?



MISSION OF JESUS



QUESTION THREE

3) What MEANS are used to accomplish that mission?

-- The church under the guidance and power and guidance of the Holy Spirit



MEMORY VERSE

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

Acts 1:8



KEY CHAPTER VERSE

“But the Lord said to him (Ananias), ‘Go, for he (Paul) is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and Kings and the Sons of Israel; 16 for I will show him how much he (Paul) must suffer for My name’s sake.’”

Acts 9:15



INTRODUCTION

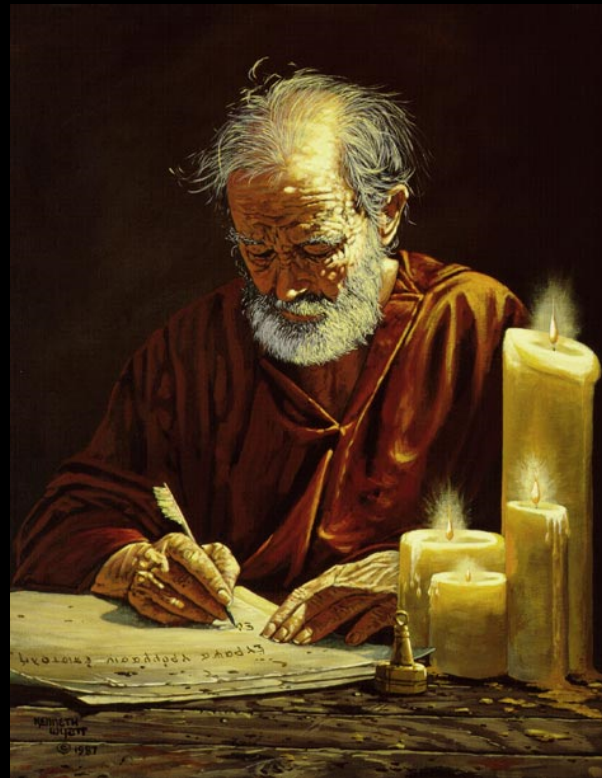


OUTLINE OF ACTS 9:1-19

Introduction.

I. Saul's Corrupted Crusade:

9:1-2



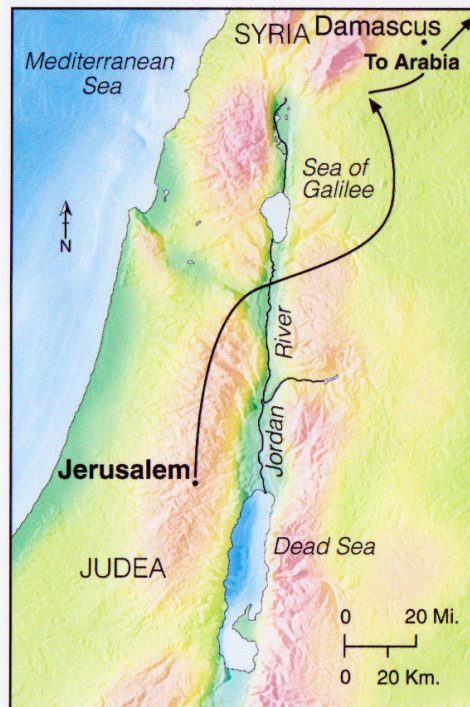
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SAUL TRAVELS TO DAMASCUS



[Acts 9:1-19](#)

Many Christians fled Jerusalem when persecution began after Stephen's death, seeking refuge in other cities and countries. Saul tracked them down, even traveling 150 miles to Damascus in Syria to bring Christians back in chains to Jerusalem. But as he neared the ancient city, he discovered that God had other plans for him ([9:15](#)).

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Damascus - Oldest Inhabited City in the World (Genesis 14:15)



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Acts 9:7

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless,
hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

Did they hear a
voice or not hear
a voice?

9 And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were
afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me.

Acts 22:9

OUTLINE OF ACTS 9:1-19

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II. God's Compassionate Calling:



Fig. 18.—Ploughmen.—Fac-simile of a Miniature in a very ancient Anglo-Saxon Manuscript published by Shaw, with legend "God Spede ye Plough, and send us Korne enow."



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OUTLINE OF ACTS 9:1-19

IV. Paul's Calculated Calm:

9:9, 11b.

“So startling and sudden had been his placing of faith in the Savior that Saul needed time to reflect on the transformation of every aspect of his life. During his three days without sight, when he neither ate or drank, God led Him through the process of reconstructing everything he was and did.

Although Salvation is an instantaneous transformation from death to life, darkness to light, it takes time to plumb the depths of its meaning and richness. Saul began that process in the house of Judas. Dr. John MacArthur

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V. Ananias' Confident Courage: 9:10-17



OUTLINE OF ACTS 9:1-19

Introduction – Straight Street is the Roman street (Decumanus Maximus) that runs from east to west in the old city of Damascus



OUTLINE OF ACTS 9:1-19

Introduction – Straight Street - Bab Sharqi Street



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Acts 9:15



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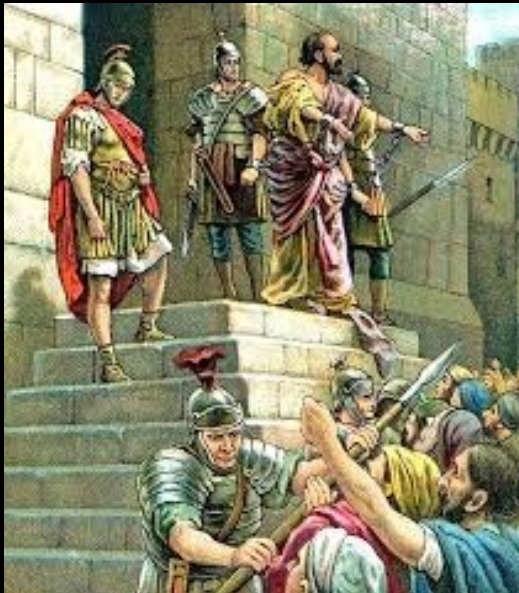
Acts 9:15



OUTLINE OF ACTS 9:1-19A

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| V. Ananias' Confident Courage: | 9:10-17 |
| VI. God's Completed Cadre: | 9:18-19a |



IMPLICATIONS

1) Salvation is for a purpose! True salvation results in the believer's service for God's glory.



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- 1) Salvation is for a purpose! True salvation results in the believer's service for God's glory.
- 2) Proclaim the gospel message in your spheres of influence regardless of the cost.
- 3) Do the work of a skillful "seed flinger" and let God deal with the transforming impact of the gospel on the human heart. Never dismiss someone's potential for saving grace.
- 4) Remember that God ALWAYS works persecution in your life and in the lives of those He is calling for His perfect result. Unredeemed eyes are always focused on God's servants, and your reaction to persecution may serve as a catalyst to show the reality of a transformed life.

