

FALL QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015

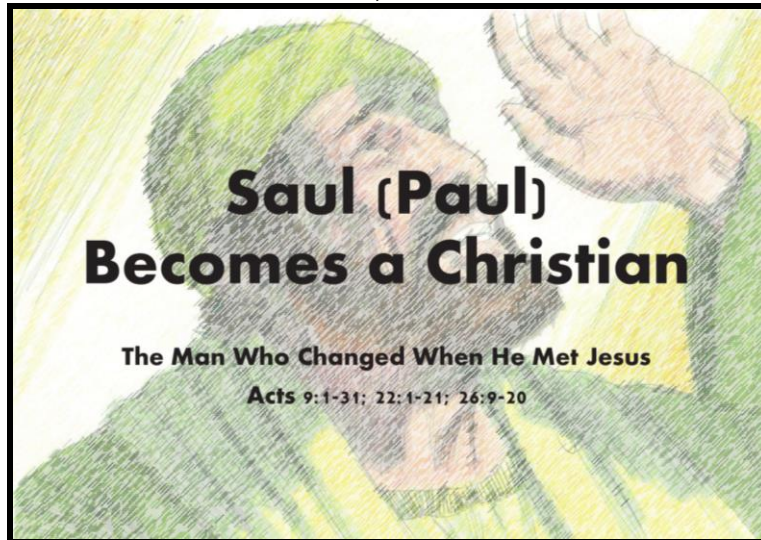
THEME: ACTS – EXPOSING GOD’S CHURCH COMMUNITY IN ACTION!

UNIT ONE – “The Gains of their Actions”

UNIT TWO – “The Pains of their Actions”

UNIT THREE – “The Fame of their Actions”

“THE TRANSFORMATION OF GOD’S AMAZING GRACE IN THE LIFE OF SAUL OF TARSUS, AKA PAUL THE APOSTLE”



Sunday School Lesson No. VI - October 11, 2015

Rev. Frank A. Davis, III - Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Acts 9:1-31

Required Reading: Acts 9:1-31

Memory Text: Acts 9:20, *“And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.”*
Ephesians 2:8-9, *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Libronix Electronic Library; Precepts for Living (UMI), Word Search 9 and 10 Electronic Library; MacArthur Study Bible; Thirty Amazing People in the Bible by Dr. David Jeremiah, The Book of Acts by E. Gillentine; The Book of Acts in 24 Lessons by E. L. Bynum; George Brooks Preaching Commentary

INTRODUCTION

Quoting the Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator: “Do you believe that Christ can change lives? We know, of course, that the Lord can and does make a difference in our lives, for He has saved us from eternal condemnation. But those of us who grew up going to church might actually think of ourselves as *less lost* than others. The truth is that outside of Christ, all of us are lost and in need of the Saviour (Rom. 3:9-12, 23; 6:23).”

Among other things, Acts tells the story of many changed lives. Some of those changes were quite radical, as when the Philippian jailer was saved (16:25-34), or when the Thessalonians turned from idols to serve God (17:1-4; I Thess. 1:9), or when the Ephesian occultists burned their books of magic (Acts 19:17-20)...Perhaps the greatest example of a changed life was Saul of Tarsus, arch-enemy of the early church.”

It is his life that we would like to highlight in this week’s lesson called **“The Transformation of God’s Amazing Grace in the Life of Saul of Tarsus, a.k.a. Paul the Apostle.”**

Chapter 9 of Acts opens with the times of persecution and peril still plundering the early church. Saul of Tarsus, a zealous Jew most likely of the Sanhedrin council, sought letters of authority to put down the growth and development of the new Church of Jesus Christ. He had been the custodian of the garments for those who stoned Stephen. Now having ascertain letters of authority, he expands the havoc northward from Jerusalem to Damascus, Syria. Little did he know this wave of

terror would lead to his own salvation in Jesus Christ. Above all, his salvation would lead to a season of peaceful rest in the Church of Jesus Christ.

Now let us examine “**The Transformation of God’s Amazing Grace in the Life of Saul of Tarsus, a.k.a. Paul the Apostle.**”

Our Anticipated Power Points:

- **Amazing Grace Divinely Apprehends the Church’s Adversary. Acts 9:1-9**
- **Amazing Grace Raised a Dedicated Advocate Named Ananias. Acts 9:10-19**
- **Amazing Grace Produces a Fiery Ambassador. Acts 9:20-25**
- **Amazing Grace has Demonstrated the Power of the Almighty. Acts 9:26-31**

LESSON OUTLINE

“The Transformation of God’s Amazing Grace in the Life of Saul of Tarsus, a.k.a. Paul the Apostle.”

I. Amazing Grace Divinely Apprehends the Church’s Adversary. Acts 9:1-9

- A. Saul’s intention was to destroy the way. vss. 1-2**
- B. Saul’s interruption by Divinity, on the way. vss. 3-9**
 - 1. A light. vs. 3
 - 2. A voice. vss. 4-5
 - 3. A response. vss. 6-9

II. Amazing Grace Raised a Dedicated Advocate Named Ananias. Acts 9:10-19

- A. He was reluctant. vss. 10-16**
- B. He was reliable. vss. 17-19**

III. Amazing Grace Produces a Fiery Ambassador. Acts 9:20-25

- A. He was divinely instructed. vss. 20-21**
- B. He stood strong and invincible. vs. 22**
- C. He received Divine instructions. vs. 23**
(Galatians 1:15-24 fills in these blanks)
- D. He was Divinely indestructible. vss. 24-25**

IV. Amazing Grace has Demonstrated the Power of the Almighty. Acts 9:26-31

- A. Saul is doubted by the disciples. vs. 26**
- B. Saul is vouched for by Barnabas. vs. 27**
- C. Saul is received and reconciled. vs. 28**
- D. Saul is rejected by the Hellenists and returned safely home. vss. 29-30**
- E. Saul’s conversion brought peace to the Church and war against Satan. vs. 31**

CLOSING

Testimony of Mel Trotter...God’s Amazing Grace. “Mel Trotter was a barber by profession and a drunkard by perversion. So debauched had he become that when his young daughter died, he stole the shoes she was to be buried in and pawned them for money to buy more drinks. One night he staggered into the Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago and was marvelously saved. Burdened for the men of skid row, he opened a rescue mission in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He went on to found more than sixty more missions and became supervisor of a chain of them stretching from Boston to San Francisco.” (Elgin S. Moyer, *Who Was Who in Church History* [New Canaan, Conn.: Keats, 1974], 411).

“Amazing Grace, How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now I’m found, was blind, but now I see.”

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TV Telecast: WHNO TV-Channel 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.

Looking Ahead:

October 18, 2015

Acts 10:24-38

The Sunday School Lesson is taught each Wednesday at noon at Bibleway. All are welcome!

