

Acts 9:1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

<u>3</u> And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

<u>4</u> And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?
<u>5</u> And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

<u>6</u> And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. 8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought *him* into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

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 a. The Miracle of Saul's Conversion, 9:1-3a
 (1) His Deadly Enmity, 9:1a

Acts 9:1 "And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord..."

Original Word: ἐμπνέω Transliteration: empneó Definition: I breathe, breathe into, inhale. http://biblehub.com/greek/1709.htm

(2) His Driving Energy, 9:1b-3a

(a) His Marked Initiative, 9:1b-2

Acts 9:1b "...went unto the high priest, 2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem."

<u>1 Cor. 15:9</u> For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. Gal. 1:13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

(b) His Maintained Intention, 9:3a "And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus..."

b. The Manner of Saul's Conversion, 9:3b-9

(1) The Tremendous Revelation to Him, 9:3b-5

(a) The Light from Heaven, 9:3b "...and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:" Acts 22:6 And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me.

Acts 26:13 At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven, above the brightness of the sun, shining round about me and them which journeyed with me.

(b) The Lord from Heaven, 9:4-5

<u>Acts 9:4</u> And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? <u>5</u> And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks. Jn. 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

New International Version "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied.

<u>New American Standard Bible</u> And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, <u>Holman Christian Standard Bible</u> Who are You, Lord?" he said. "I am Jesus, the One you are persecuting," He replied.

Douay-Rheims Bible

Who said: Who art thou, Lord? And he: I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. It is hard for thee to kick against the goad.

King James Bible

And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks. http://biblehub.com/acts/9-5.htm (2) The Total Revelation to Him, 9:6-9

(a) The Sovereignty of Jesus Established in His Life, 9:6-7

i. How the Lord Changed Him,9:6

Acts 9:6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

<u>New International Version</u> "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

New American Standard Bible but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do."

Holman Christian Standard Bible "But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

Douay-Rheims Bible And he trembling and astonished, said: Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

King James Bible And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. http://biblehub.com/acts/9-6.htm <u>Acts 2:37</u> Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?

<u>Acts 9:6</u> And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

Acts 16:30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

Have you noticed how the text gets changed when someone is getting saved??? Remember the change with the Ethiopian got saved in <u>Acts 8:37</u>? Let's check out <u>Luke</u> 23:42:

New International Version

Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

New American Standard Bible And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!"

Holman Christian Standard Bible Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom!"

Douay-Rheims Bible

And he said to Jesus: Lord, remember me when thou shalt come into thy kingdom.

King James Bible And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. http://biblehub.com/luke/23-42.htm

ii. How the Lord Chose Him, 9:7

Acts 9:7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

<u>Acts 22:9</u> 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 26:14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

Jn. 12:29 The people therefore, that stood by, and heard *it*, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him.

(b) The Sufficiency of Jesus Is Established in His Life, 9:8-9

i. Walking in the Light, 9:8

Acts 9:8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought *him* into Damascus.

ii. Walking in the Dark, 9:9

Acts 9:9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

Acts 22:14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

Acts 26:16 But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee;

<u>1 Cor. 9:1 Am I not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord?</u>

<u>1 Cor. 15:8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.</u>

Conclusion

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.... 22 Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: 23 That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles.