

Acts 9:1-19 **Saul's Conversion**

Introduction:

Following Stephen's martyrdom, Luke takes us into the ministry of Philip the evangelist and then by the remarkable conversion of Saul, who later becomes the apostle Paul. Saul was a zealous Jew, a rigorous legalist, a meticulous man of the Old Testament Scripture. He was obsessed about crushing all those who were following "The Way" people, who were converted Christians following the Way of Jesus. Jesus is "the way the truth and the life" (Acts 9:2; 26:10-11; John 14:6)

- I. **Christ's Initiative – v.3**
 - A. **The invincible grace of God – Isa. 59:1; Acts 26:13; 65:1**

 - B. **Effectual Calling**

- II. **Conviction of Sin - v.4**
 - A. **The risen Savior**
 - 1. Persecuting Jesus – Eph. 1:22,23
 - 2. Goads – Nails for an ox – Eccl. 12:11
 - 3. Suppressing the truth – Rom. 1:18

- III. **Conversion To Christ – v.5**
 - A. **Divinity acknowledged**

 - B. **Saul's resistance is over – Turn To: Philippians 3:3-9 (I Tim. 1:13-17)**
 - 1. Application: Do not give up on the conversion of your loved ones. (Acts 13:2:9)
 - 2. Saul becomes Paul. (Saul "From strong desire" to "little" humbled Paul)

- IV. **Committed to Discipleship – v.6-9**
 - A. **Paul's Obedience – Acts 26:16-18**

 - B. **Days of preparation – (Acts 13:1-5; Gal. 1:14-2:1-2; I Tim. 5:21,22)**
 - 1. Sealed – v.10-11
 - 2. A chosen instrument – Gk. Skeuos "a vessel" Rom. 9:21; I Thess. 4:4
 - 3. Christian Service is costly – v.16 (II Tim. 2:12)
 - 4. Suffering with Christ – Rom. 8:17; Phil. 1:29; I Thess. 3:4; II Tim. 1:12; 2:3, 9; I Pet. 2:20; 3:14; 4:15; II Tim. 2:21