


The Conversion of Saul

1 Timothy 1:12-16

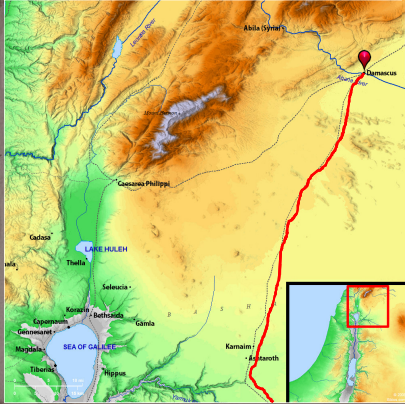
- ### History & Character Of Saul
- Born of a great race. Acts 22:3; Philippians 3:5
 - Educated. Acts 22:3
 - Religious. Acts 26:4-5
 - Zealous. Galatians 1:14; Acts 22:3
 - Conscientious. Acts 23:1; 24:16; 26:9ff

- ### History & Character Of Saul
- Persecuted the church. Galatians 1:13; 1 Timothy 1:13
 - Imprisoned disciples. Acts 8:3; 22:4
 - Compelled them to blaspheme. Acts 26:11
 - Voted to kill them. Acts 26:10; 7:58; 22:20
 - Traveled to strange cities to find Christians. Acts 26:11; 9:1-2
 - Chief of sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15; cf. Ephesians 3:8



Saul on the Road to Damascus

- *Persecuting disciples.* Acts 9:1-2; 22:3-5; 26:9-12
- Zeal without knowledge. (Philippians 3:6)
- Violently arrogant. 1 Timothy 1:13; Acts 5:39



Saul's Vision

Saw a light.
Acts 9:3-9

Heard a voice.
9:3-5, 7

Self-examination.
9:4-5

Saul believes.
9:6

Commanded.
9:6-9

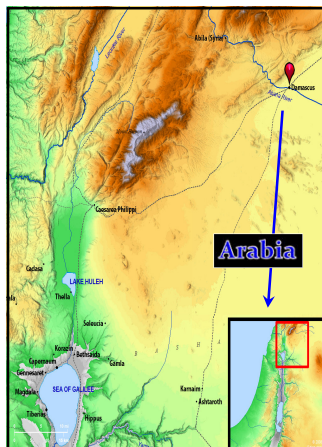
- ### Why The Vision?
- Not to save him.
 - To learn what to do in the city. Acts 9:6
 - Still lost after the vision. Acts 9:7-9
 - Saul saw the vision and heard the voice of Christ to qualify him to be an apostle. Acts 22:14-15; 26:16-18; 1 Corinthians 9:1
 - We need not expect these in our case!

Saul's Conversion

- **Believed** that Jesus is the Christ. Acts 9:4-5; cf. Acts 26:14
 - Jesus did not speak "Peace" to him. Why?
 - Emphasis on "Must." Acts 9:6
- **Repentance** – Miserable for three days. Acts 9:9
- Preacher sent. Acts 9:10-11
- **Taught** what to do. Acts 22:16
- **Baptized**, his agony passed away. Acts 9:18-19

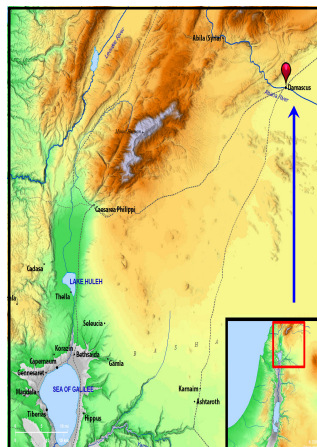
Why Was Saul Converted To Christ?

- Not for wealth. cf. 1 Corinthians 4:10-13; Acts 20:33-35
- Not for reputation. cf. 1 Corinthians 4:13; Galatians 1:10; cf. 1 Corinthians 15:19
- Not for power. 1 Corinthians 15:9; 2 Corinthians 4:5
- Not because he was mistaken or deceived.
- Paul was convinced / persuaded. 1 Timothy 1:12; Acts 26:29; cf. 1 Peter 4:19



The Next Several Years

- DAMASCUS some days. Acts 9:19
- Immediately preached. Acts 9:20; Galatians 1:16, 11-12 (Revelation)
- ARABIA. Galatians 1:17



Escapes Danger in Damascus Acts 9:23-25

- Returned to Damascus many days. 9:23 (3 years, Galatians 1:18)
- Death plot. 9:23
- Escaped in a basket. 9:24-25; 2 Corinthians 11:32-33



Back to Jerusalem Acts 9:26-30

- **Living down a bad reputation.** 9:26-28
- Brethren suspicious and fearful. 9:26
- Barnabas vouches for Saul. 9:27
- Identifying with faithful brethren. cf. Acts 18:27
- Lessons on forgiveness and unity. 9:27-28
- Hellenist Jews try to kill Saul. 9:29



Saul delivered by the Lord and sent to TARSUS 9:30; 22:17-21

Churches in Palestine had peace. Acts 9:31

- Peaceful unity and growth.
 - Edified
 - Fear of God
 - Comfort of HS
 - Multiplied!

Conclusion:

- Saul begins his life of faith in Christ and sacrifice in His service. Philippians 3:4-7
- Persecutor becomes persecuted. Philippians 3:13
- Saul, also called Paul (Acts 13:9), faced great resistance, but he prevailed in Christ. Philippians 4:13; cf. Acts 9:15-17; Acts 26:4-7; 2 Timothy 4:6-8
- Let us follow his example. Galatians 2:20

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