

Saul's Stop Light

Acts 9

I. His Supernatural Meeting With Jesus, 1-9

A change in plans...

1-2: brutal, homicidal rampage

3-4: near Damascus: a stop light; voice

5: 'Who are you?'

6: must abandon his plans, do as **told**

7: reaction of fellow-travelers: speechless

8-9: opened eyes. . .nothing. Three days:

no . . . ¹sight; ²food; ³drink; ⁴peace

While blind, what did Paul see?

1. **State: lost.** Ac.22:16; 9:9, not acts of saved man. Lv.16:29; Ac.27:9
2. **Ignorance:**
 - a. Schooled, Ac.22:3. Gamaliel
 - 1) Grandson of Hillel; Sanhedrin
 - 2) 'Rabban'
 - 3) Talmud
 - 4) Saul's zeal surpassed teacher's

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 - b. Sincere, Ac.26:9. Pr.14:12

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 - c. Superior, Ga.1:13-14.

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2. **Ignorance**
3. **Name above every Name.** Ac.26:9; Ro.1:5. Ep.1:21; Ph.2:9
4. **New Covenant in effect.** Ac.6-8
5. **Enemy of God.** 1 Tim.1:15
6. **Rubbish.** Ph.3

While blind, what did Paul see?

1. **S**tate: lost. Ac.22:16; 9:9, not acts of saved man. Lv.16:29; Ac.27:9
2. **I**gnorance:
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I. His Supernatural Meeting With Jesus

II. The Reluctant
Messenger, 10-19a

To go or not to go?

10: Ananias: good reputation (22:12)

11-12: commission: frightening

13-14: must inform Lord

15-16: 'Go!'

17: Ananias obeys

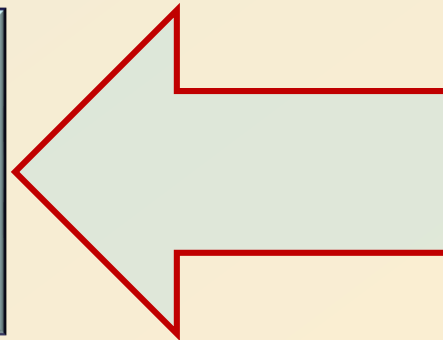
18-19a -

Ananias'
hands restore
sight

Food
restores
strength

Obedience
restores
soul

Acts 22:16, order
Acts 9:18, obeys



Hovey on Acts 22:16

Baptist (1820-1903)

President of Newton Theological
Institution, Newton Center, Mass.

Also Professor of Theology.

Quotes Hackett: "that this clause (*and wash away thy sins*) states a result of the baptism in language derived from the nature of the ordinance. It answers to *unto the forgiveness of sins*, in 2.38 – i.e., submit to the rite in order to be forgiven" – John, p. 420

I. His Supernatural Meeting With Jesus, 1-9

II. The Reluctant Messenger, Ananias, 10-19a

**III. His Powerful Message
In Damascus, 19-22**

Keep the change

19b: time with people he had targeted

20-21: proclaimed Jesus in synagogues

22: increased in strength -

Confounded: frustrate, bewilder

Proving: demonstrate, show for certain

Keep the change

19b: time with people he had targeted

20-21: proclaimed Jesus in synagogues

22: increased in strength

23: no one thought his journey would end this way

Persecutor becomes object of Jewish assassination plot [Mt.26:4]

Keep the change

19b: time with people he had targeted

20-21: proclaimed Jesus in synagogues

22: increased in strength

23: no one thought his journey would end this way

24-25: watched...lowered in basket

Christians expected to leave in shame.
One did.

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III. His Powerful Message In Damascus, 19-22

**IV. His Merciful Reception
In Jerusalem, 26-30**

Saint or ain't?

26-28: disciples reluctant; is it a trick?

29: Hellenists try to kill him.

30: new brothers protect, love, forgive their former persecutor.

What does this mean to me?

1. Saul's conversion confirms NT

- He knows he saw Jesus.
- He continues to speak with Him.
- He changes his life because of Him.
- He knows this is common knowledge –
Ac.26:24-28. *The king knows...*

What does this mean to me?

1. Saul's conversion proves NT is true

2. Do not write off any prospect.

- Saul?
- Corinth?
- Ph.4:22?

What if Ananias said no?
Imagine world without Paul.

What does this mean to me?

1. Saul's conversion proves NT is true
2. Do not write off any prospect.
3. Saul's preaching / work show that people can change.
 - Ro.1:16, power of gospel
 - Ro.2:4, goodness of God
 - Ro.2:4-5, longsuffering of God

What does this mean to me?

1. Saul's conversion proves NT is true
2. Do not write off any prospect.
3. Saul's preaching / work show that people can change.
4. Humility suits the Christian.
 - Be thankful for blessings.

What does this mean to me?

1. Saul's conversion proves NT is true
2. Do not write off any prospect.
3. Saul's preaching / work show that people can change.
4. Humility suits the Christian.
5. **We can forgive anyone – and must.**
 - If Christians could forgive Saul...
 - Stephen's family, friends...