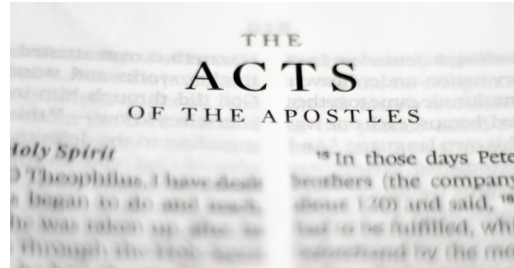


**Dr. Edward O. Williamson, Pastor-teacher**  
**Bible Study and Discussion Group**  
**Topic: The Book of Acts**



**Handout #3 – The Early Church Continues to Grow: Chapter 9**

**Key verse:** *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8*

**Outline (from The Knowledge Bible Commentary – NT Volume):**

- I. The Witness in Jerusalem (1:1-6:7)
- II. The Witness in all Judea and Samaria (6:8-9:31)**
- III. The Witness to the End of the Earth (9:32-28:31)

**Chapter 9**

**I. Saul Is Converted**

- a. Who is Saul and why is he so important?
- b. Saul continues to persecute the church – vs. 1-2
- c. Saul is confronted by the Lord – vs. 3-9
  1. Saul is blinded by a light from heaven
  2. Saul falls to the ground
  3. Saul dialogues with a voice
    - a. Voice, “Why are you persecuting Me?”
    - b. Saul, “Who are You, Lord?”
    - c. Identification – “I am Jesus...”
    - d. Saul, “Lord, what do You want me to do?”
    - e. Lord, “Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”
  4. Saul is led to Damascus...
- d. What are some unique characteristics of Saul’s conversion experience?

**II. Saul Is Baptized – vs. 10-19**

- a. Why is Ananias skeptical of Saul’s conversion?
- b. The Lord speaks to Ananias in a vision – vs. 10-15

- c. Ananias baptizes Saul – vs. 16-19
  - d. What does the conversion of Saul mean for us today?
- III. Saul Preaches Christ – vs. 20-22
- a. Immediately, he preached Christ is the Son of God in the synagogues
  - b. The people are amazed and confused
  - c. Saul increased in strength and confounded the Jews in Damascus
  - d. Saul through his preaching proved that Jesus is the Christ
- IV. Saul Escapes and Comes to Jerusalem – vs. 23-31
- a. The Jews plotted to kill Saul
  - b. Saul escaped by being let down through the wall in a basket
  - c. Saul tried to join the disciples in Jerusalem
  - d. Barnabas takes Saul to the disciples
  - e. Saul shares his conversion story
  - f. Hellenist attempt to kill him but he escapes to Caesarea and then Tarsus
  - g. Why do the Jews and Hellenist seek to kill Saul?
- V. The Continues to Grow – vs. 31-43
- a. Summary statement: “Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified... -- v. 31
  - b. Peter heals Aeneas – vs. 32-35
  - c. Peter restores Dorcas to life – vs. 36-42
  - d. Peter stays many days in Joppa – v. 43

Questions/Comments

Closing Prayer

Assignment: Read Chapters 10 and 11 for next week.