

ACTS 9:20-35

(v.20-22) Jesus is the Son of God! The phrase *Son of God* appears 37 times in New Testament. It is the *distinctive* title of nature and **not** office - equality with God the Father.

(John 1:1, 14) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

were amazed – *existanto* – literally: “they were beside themselves; they were struck out of their senses.”

(2 Corinthians 5:17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Note: between (v.22, 23) Galatians 1:17, Paul went to Arabia.

(v.23-25) This was Paul’s cup, his calling.

Jesus said to Peter; “*Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?*” (John 18:11b).

Acts 20:22-24. *After the cup, there is divine joy.*

(Psalm 51:8) Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice.

(Psalm 30:5) For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning.

(v.26-31) Barnabas – means: son of encouragement.

Don't even eat with an unrepentant immoral brother - 1 Corinthians 5:11. 2 Corinthians 2:8 "...reaffirm your love to him."

(Proverbs 27:6) Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Christian friendship - coming alongside others as Christ came alongside you. (ttt) Colossians 3:12-14.

Christ can divide relationships. **(Matthew 10:34)** "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword."

(John 15:18-19) "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

(v.31b) The two necessary *aspects* of church and personal “growth.”

1) Fear of the Lord.

(Proverbs 14:26-27) In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence,
And His children will have a place of refuge. The fear of the Lord is a
fountain of life, To turn one away from the snares of death.

2) Comfort of the Holy Spirit.

(Psalm 94:19) In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your
comforts delight my soul.

**Whether *emotionally, mentally, physically, or spiritually*, Christ is our
“healer!”**

(2 Corinthians 5:8) We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be
absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

(Exodus 15:26b) “For I am the Lord who heals you.”

CONCLUSION:

First – Preach Christ as the Son of God.

Second – Joy follows every bitter cup.

Third – Fear (reverence) and comfort (Spirit) = Growth.

Fourth – Christ is our healer.