



TRANSFORMED • Pastor Craig Smith • June 21, 2020

Saul, a portrait of a man who was sincerely _____ that his cause was _____...

I too was convinced that I ought to do all that was possible to oppose the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is just what I did in Jerusalem. On the authority of the chief priests I put many of the saints in prison, and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against them. Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to force them to blaspheme. In my obsession against them, I even went to foreign cities to persecute them.

(Acts 26:9-11)

A life transformed by God...

- _____ – **The _____ of God** – “As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice...” **(Acts 9:3-4a)**

☞ **As God constantly _____ some consistently kick back** – “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” **(Acts 26:14b)**

- (_____) – **The confrontation of _____** – “He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’” **(Acts 9:4)**
- (_____) – **The change of _____** – “‘Who are you, Lord?’ Saul asked. ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ He replied. ‘Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.’” **(Acts 9:5-6)**

☞ **Never underestimate your _____ for the _____** – “Then he fell on his knees and cried out, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ And Saul was there, giving approval to his death.” **(Acts 7:60-8:1a)**

- (_____) – **The gift of _____** – “I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you...I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.” **(Acts 26:16b-18)**

☞ **God saved us to be an agent of _____, not a _____ of grace** – “For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” **(Ephesians 2:8-10)**

For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect. **(1 Corinthians 15:9-10)**



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(Acts 26:9-11)

A life transformed by God...

- **(Initiation) – The contact of God** – “As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice...” **(Acts 9:3-4a)**

☞ **As God constantly calls out, some consistently kick back** – “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.” **(Acts 26:14b)**

- **(Conviction) – The confrontation of sin** – “He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’” **(Acts 9:4)**
- **(Conversion) – The change of heart** – “‘Who are you, Lord?’ Saul asked. ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ He replied. ‘Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.’” **(Acts 9:5-6)**

☞ **Never underestimate your prayers for the lost** – “Then he fell on his knees and cried out, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ And Saul was there, giving approval to his death.” **(Acts 7:60-8:1a)**

- **(Calling) – The gift of serving** – “I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen of me and what I will show you...I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.” **(Acts 26:16b-18)**

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