

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 10-4-26
Christianity 103 – Message 9 Part 4
Damascus Road Revelation

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Last week we made it to Damascus.
- 2) Look back to the moment when you trusted Christ as Savior.
- 3) We met a faithful Jewish believer, Ananias.
 - a) God told Ananias to go and see Saul. Verses 11-12
 - b) Ananias expressed his concern about Saul. Verses 13-14
 - c) Ananias came to understand that Saul was a “chosen vessel.” Verse 15
- 4) We looked at II Timothy 2:19-22 to see what Paul said about being a vessel.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Before we continue with this story, let’s consider another truth related to being a vessel.

2) Sanctification:

- a) Means to set apart and make holy
- b) At salvation God set you apart and makes you holy and thus calls you to live holy, and separate lives.
- c) Being set apart is something that happens to a person, not something a person does.
- d) Live as one who has been separated and made holy.

3) Philippians 2:12-13 –

- a) Do not think this means you can work for your salvation.
- b) To “work out” means continuing a work to its conclusion, keep working to complete.
- c) At salvation God saved you, set you apart, and made you holy. This comes out in your life through the decisions and choices you make that reflect the work God has done.

4) I Peter 1:15-16 –

- a) “holy in all manner of conversation” – “conversation” is your manner of life, behavior, conduct.

5) Holiness includes the following aspects:

- a) To be holy is to be separated from worldly relations thus being consecrated and dedicated to God.
- b) Holiness includes an ethical sense – to be holy is to be conscious of belonging to God and to act out this relationship in obedience to His will
- c) Holiness reflects God’s moral perfection – His hatred for evil.

6) I Peter 1:16 – “Be ye holy; for I am holy.” Be separate from evil just as God is separate from evil.

c. What does that battle look like in a believer’s life? II Corinthians 6:17

- 1) When it comes to separation as a Christian, the battle is harder than we like to admit.
 - a) In verses 14-16 believers are likened to being “the temple of the living God.”
- 2) To come out and be separate means that daily we will separate ourselves from evil and dedicate ourselves to serving God.

3) Two things to note here:

- a) Separate – separation from evil is seen in our behavior/choices.
- b) Dedication – dedication to God will be seen by the things you say no to.

d. What kind of vessel are you choosing to be?

- 1) Where does God find you?
- 2) Application –

- a) Galatians 2:20 –
- 2. Ananias obeys. Acts 9:17-19
 - a. Verse 17 –
 - 1) Ananias believed and obeyed what God had said.
 - a) Ananias called him, “Brother Saul.”
 - b. Verse 18 –
 - 1) After receiving his sight, Saul was baptized.
 - c. Saul preaches Jesus Christ. Acts 9:20-22
 - 1) Verse 20 –
 - a) Can you imagine that moment, especially if you knew who Saul was beforehand.
 - 2) Was he ready?
 - 3) It is believed that somewhere between verses 19 -22 in when he went to Arabia.
 - a) Galatians 1:15-17 –
 - 4) To begin his time of discipleship, the Spirit led him to Arabia.
 - 5) Acts 9:21 –
 - a) Saul’s preaching astonished them.
 - 6) Verse 22 –
 - 7) Application –
 - a) Do you see the step he took here?
- 3. Today’s Takeaway:
 - a. Saul’s first step, led by the Lord, was discipleship.
 - b. We looked at the basics of sanctification today.
 - c. What kind of vessel are you choosing to be?