

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 9-13-26
Christianity 103 – Message 9 Part 2
Damascus Road Revelation

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) We are taking a close look at Saul.
 - a) Saul was his Hebrew name, and Paul was his Roman name.
 - b) He was the enemy of Jesus and yet a self-proclaimed servant of God.
- 2) Saul was, “breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord.”
 - a) Saul asked the high priest for “letters.”
- 3) When it came to Jesus and the Gospel, Saul was blinded by the tenets of the Law he had been taught.
- 4) Saul eventually did understand that salvation is by grace through faith and not by works.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) When did you meet Jesus?
- 2) When did you trust Him as your Savior?
- 3) This is what we will see today in Saul’s life.

2. Saul needs truth. Acts 9:3-5

a. Verse 3 –

- 1) Saul is walking along with the men who have purposed to go with him.
 - a) His plans get interrupted.
- 2) “a light from heaven...”
 - a) This can be described as a heavenly light, such as the light that surrounds angels when they appear.
 - b) Those with him saw him react and heard something.

b. Verse 4 –

- 1) Saul fell to the ground.
 - a) “he fell to the earth” –
- 2) “heard a voice” – meaning a declaration from heaven, heard though no speaker was seen.
- 3) “Saul, Saul, why persecutes thou me?”
 - a) Why are you in so many ways harassing, troubling and persecuting me?

c. Verse 5 –

- 1) “Who are thou, Lord?”
 - a) “Lord” – speaks of anyone who wished to honor a man of distinction.
- 2) Saul gets his answer.
 - a) “I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.”
- 3) Saul was confronted with the truth.
 - a) Would Saul change his mind about Jesus?
 - b) Had Saul died prior to this moment, he would have died unsaved.
- 4) Application – Saul isn’t the only one who has faced this danger.

d. What did Jesus mean?

- 1) “it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.”

- a) The “prick” was a sharp stick used to prod an ox when plowing. When a stubborn ox kicked back against the prick, it only hurt him. The prick always won, and the animal’s resistance was futile and painful.
- b) Application – Saul, you are fighting against God, and your resistance is only hurting you.

2) Grace!

- a) Jesus didn’t kill Saul. He confronted him, and Saul’s rejection of Jesus fell apart.
- b) Saul went from being the number one persecutor of the church to one of its greatest missionaries.

e. Application:

- 1) Are you fighting against the truth of who Jesus is and your need of Him?

3. Saul is a new man. Acts 9:6-9

a. Verse 6 –

b. Saul is a new creation in Christ.

- 1) “And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?”
 - a) What do you see?
- 2) The truth has confronted Saul, and we see a change taking place within him that becomes very visible on the outside.
- 3) This was a great decision in his life, but it was a major change for him.
- 4) Application – A changed life means a changed direction in life.

c. New life, new direction.

- 1) I think Saul’s next question is also important.
 - a) “Lord, what wilt thou have me do?”

d. Verse 7 –

- 1) “stood speechless” –
- 2) How did this event impact their lives?

e. Verse 8 –

- 1) Saul stood up, and when he opened his eyes, he could not see.
 - a) The men with him led him to Damascus.
- 2) For three days Saul could not see.
- 3) An important observation –

4. Today’s Take Away:

- a. Saul was overwhelmed and moved by what Jesus had done for him that day, so much so that he asked a simple but life-changing question.
- b. Is it really true that anyone can be saved?
- c. When Saul got saved, what did he discover about his new life?