



## **Acts: To the Ends of the Earth**

Acts 9:1-9

### Introduction

*Why is Saul's conversion so significant?*

#### **1. Saul's conversion is significant because Saul is significant.**

- ❖ Acts 9:15—*“Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.”*
- ❖ Acts 26:23—*the Christ must suffer and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.*
- ❖ Romans 9:2-4—*I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. They are Israelites,*

#### **2. Saul conversion proves the legitimacy of Saul's apostleship.**

- ❖ Ephesians 1:1—*an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,*

#### **3. Saul's salvations shows us what a wonderful savior we have**

### An Angry Saul Meets a Loving Savior

#### ❖ **Acts 9:1-2**

*An Angry Saul*

#### ❖ **Acts 9:3-6**

##### **1. The Glory of Christ is overwhelmingly powerful!**

- ❖ John 18:6—*When Jesus said to them, “ I am he,” they drew back and fell to the ground.*

##### **2. Though Saul doesn't yet know Christ, Christ has always known Saul**

- ❖ Luke 10:41—*“**Martha, Martha,** you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”*
- ❖ Luke 13:34—*“**Jerusalem, Jerusalem,** the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!*
- ❖ Matthew 27:46—***My God, my God,** why have you forsaken me?*



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### Acts 9:1-9

- ❖ Ephesians 1:4-6—*he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.*

### **3. To persecute the Church is to persecute Jesus**

- ❖ 1 Corinthians 6:17—*But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him*
- ❖ Luke 10:16—*“The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me*

### **4. Saul is not YET converted**

- ❖ 1 Corinthians 1:21—*it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.*

### **❖ Acts 9:7-9**

#### *A Portrait of Particular Atonement*

- ❖ Acts 26:13—*...brighter than the sun*
- ❖ Acts 26:13-14—*I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me*
- ❖ John 10:15—*I lay down my life for the sheep.*