

**Then Saul, still breathing threats
and murder against the disciples of
the Lord, went to the high priest**

**and asked letters from him to the
synagogues of Damascus, so that
if he found any who were of the
Way, whether men or women, he
might bring them bound to
Jerusalem.**

Acts 9:1-2

I have no interest in giving you a chatty account of my adventures, only the wondrously powerful and transformingly present words and deeds of Christ in me that triggered a believing response among the outsiders. In such

ways I have trailblazed a preaching of the Message of Jesus all the way from Jerusalem far into northwestern Greece. This has all been pioneer work, bringing the Message only into those places where Jesus was not yet known and worshiped. My text has been,

**Those who were never told of
him—
they'll see him!**

**Those who've never heard of him—
they'll get the message!**

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And that's why it has taken me so long to finally get around to coming to you. But now that there is no more pioneering work to be done in these parts, and since I have looked forward to seeing you for many years, I'm planning my visit.

I'm headed for Spain, and expect to stop off on the way to enjoy a good visit with you, and eventually have you send me off with God's blessing.

Romans 15:17-24

wired for it

**“Whoever sheds man’s blood,
By man his blood shall be shed;
For in the image of God
He made man.**

Genesis 9:6

saul was wired to chase

**For you have heard of my former
conduct in Judaism, how I
persecuted the church of God
beyond measure and tried to
destroy it.**

**And I advanced in Judaism beyond
many of my contemporaries in my
own nation, being more
exceedingly zealous for the
traditions of my fathers.**

**But when it pleased God, who
separated me from my mother's
womb and called me through His
grace,**

Galatians 1:13-15

**Who is wise and understanding
among you? Let him show by good
conduct that his works are done in
the meekness of wisdom.**

But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.

**This wisdom does not descend
from above, but is earthly, sensual,
demonic.**

**For where envy and self-seeking
exist, confusion and every evil
thing are there.**

**But the wisdom that is from above
is first pure, then peaceable,
gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy
and good fruits, without partiality
and without hypocrisy.**

**Now the fruit of righteousness is
sown in peace by those who make
peace.**

James 3:13-18

**saul was wired to act from
authority**

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Acts 9:1-2

saul was wired for opposition

**Immediately he preached the Christ
in the synagogues, that He is the
Son of God.**

**Then all who heard were amazed,
and said, “Is this not he who
destroyed those who called on this
name in Jerusalem, and has come
here for that purpose, so that he
might bring them bound to the
chief priests?”**

But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ.

**Now after many days were past,
the Jews plotted to kill him.**

But their plot became known to Saul. And they watched the gates day and night, to kill him.

**Then the disciples took him by
night and let him down through the
wall in a large basket.**

Acts 9:20-25