

"M3 – Man, Moment & Movement"

The Birth & Spread of the Church – (25)

A look at Acts

"You Just Never Know"

May 31, 2020

Text: Acts 9:1-19 (1 of 2)

"But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" ⁵And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting; it is hard for thee to kick against the goads/pricks. ⁶But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. ⁸Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank..."

There are names that when mentioned stir memories of their impact and large-scale ripple within the church: **Augustine, Luther, Calvin, Newton, Moody, Wesley, Whitefield, Graham (and I will add most recently the late Ravi Zacharias). *BUT...*

Biographical Insights –

** Look for other examples of remarkable "it'll never happen" brief stories of some who were called to faith in Christ Jesus in the June CONNECT.

YOU JUST NEVER KNOW

Paul's conversion came despite his being a COMMITTED
O _____ OF CHRISTIANITY

PAUL'S CONVERSION CAME OUT OF T _____ B _____

PAUL'S CONVERSION WAS THE PERFECT DISPLAY OF GOD'S
S _____ GRACE.

Cross References: Acts 22:1-16; 26:4-18; Phil. 4:3-9; Acts 22:28; 23:6, 22:3, Gamaliel = Acts 5; Acts 8:1-3, 26:9-11, "The Way" = Acts 19:9, 23; 22:4; 24:14, 22; John 14:6; Acts 18:26; Hebrews 10:19-20; 2 Peter 2:2; revival = Acts 8; **Acts 9:1-9**; 1 Timothy 1:15-16; Ephesians 2:3; Galatians 1:15; Ephesians 2:8-9

Resource(s) used or benefited from for this piece:

Bible

F. F. Bruce, *The Book of the Acts* [Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971], 194.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Gamaliel-in-the-Bible.html>