



Acts 9: God's Chosen Champion

Greg Wendschlag March 20, 2022

*"On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave this command, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but **wait for the gift my Father promised**, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days **you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit**. So when they met together, they asked Him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them; "It is not for you to know the times or dates **the Father has set by His own authority**. But **you will receive** power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:4-8*

God's Sovereign Choice Acts 9:1-9

"As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." Acts 9:3-6

Man's Obedient Cooperation Acts 9:10-31

- Ananias – Miraculous in spite of fear

"In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered..." Acts 9:10

- Unnamed followers – Doing good against opposition

"After many days had gone by, the Jews conspired to kill him, but Saul learned of their plan. Day and night they kept close watch on the city gates in order to kill him. But his followers took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the wall..." Acts 9:23-25

- Barnabas – Kindness against popular opinion

"When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles..." Acts 9:26-27

Life Application

- God is always working. (Rom. 8:28)
- Stay close to God to learn what He is doing. (Rom. 12:1-2)
- When God reveals to you what He is doing, He intends to use you. (Rom. 10:14-15)
- Obey God, no matter what, and watch Him work. (Rom. 8:31)

"Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in number, living in the fear of the Lord." Acts 9:31