Paul's Conversion ~A Model For Others

Acts 9:1-21

Paul has told us that his conversion was to serve as an example and model for those who would later believe on Christ: "Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them

which should hereafter believe on Him to life everlasting" (1 Timothy 1:16). Consider the following:

- ♦ 1) Paul had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ which changed his life forever, a genuine conversion experience.
- ♦ 2) Paul immediately recognized that Jesus was Lord, and that he was to do whatever his Lord wanted (Acts 9:6; 22:10). He surrendered to the will of his Lord.
- ♦ 3) Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit, controlled by Him (Acts 9:17). He was a spiritual man from the start of his Christian walk.
- ♦ 4) Paul was a man of prayer from the beginning and throughout his life (Acts 9:11). The one **persecuting** was now the one **praying**.
- ♦ 5) Paul had a remarkable testimony of how God's grace had totally transformed his life (Acts 9:21).
- ♦ 6) Paul knew from the beginning that the Christian life would be very difficult and would involve suffering, and yet this did not deter him from the right pathway (Acts 9:15-16).
- ♦ 7) Paul was baptized in water, in obedience to the Lord's command (Acts 9:18).
- ♦ 8) Paul joined himself with the disciples wherever he was located (Acts 9:19, 26).
- ♦ 9) Paul had a burden for souls and immediately preached Christ to unsaved Jews in Damascus (Acts 9:20,22). He was a bold witness wherever he went, even though threatened by death (Acts 9:27, 29).
- ♦ 10) Paul was edified and strengthened in the things of God, growing in the grace and knowledge of his Saviour (Acts 9:22).

May these things be true in the life of every blood-bought child of God!

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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