

ANANIAS BAPTIZES SAUL -- ACTS 9:10-19

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numbers pastor/teachers.

THE REVELATION OF GOD TO ANANIAS – Acts 9:10-12

Act 9:10 Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias."

And he said, "Here I am, Lord."
Act 9:11 So the Lord said to him,

"Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying.
Act 9:12 And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight."

THE REACTION OF ANANIAS – Acts 9:13-14

Act 9:13 Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem."

Act 9:14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name."

THE REVELATION OF GOD TO ANANIAS – Acts 9:10-12

v. 10 "a certain disciple" - Ananias was not an apostle, but he was a disciple – Acts 22:12

v. 10 "Here I am, Lord." – Ananias' attitude – like Samuel and Isaiah – cf. Isa. 6:8

vs. 11-12 "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. [12] And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight." - The Lord's answer
Behold, and wonder, that he who but the other day breathed nothing but threatenings and slaughter, now breathes nothing but prayer." Regenerating grace evermore sets people on praying; you may as soon find a living man without breath as a living Christian without prayer; if breathless, lifeless; and so, if prayerless, graceless.

THE REACTION OF ANANIAS – Acts 9:13-14

v. 13 "harm he has done to Your saints" - To Paul's past actions – Ps. 116:15; Eph. 1:18; 1 Thess. 3:13; 2 Thess. 1:10; Jude 14; Rom. 8:27; Col. 1:26;

v. 14 "here he has authority from the chief priests" - To Paul's present authority. How much do you fear man's authority (those in authority) as opposed to fearing God and His authority?

ANANIAS BAPTIZES SAUL – “A CHOSEN VESSEL” - Acts 9:10-19a –
Going from the cause to the consequences of Saul's conversion.
The transformation of Saul's attitudes and character:

1. Reverence for God!
2. A new relationship to the church!

Today, as in the time of Saul, the first fruit of conversion is always a new awareness of the fatherhood of God, as the Spirit enables us to cry out, “Abba Father”!!

ANANIAS BAPTIZES SAUL -- ACTS 9:10-19

OBSERVATION

THE RESPONSE OF THE LORD – Acts 9:15-16

Act 9:15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine

to bear (carry a great burden) My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel.

Act 9:16 For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."

THE RESULTS OF HIS ENCOUNTER WITH SAUL – Acts 9:17-19

Act 9:17 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me

that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

INTERPRETATION

THE RESPONSE OF THE LORD – Acts 9:15-16

v. 15 "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine" - As to the selection of Paul – cf. - John 15:16; Galatians 1:15-16; Jeremiah 1:4-8; 1 Peter 2:9

God's plan – "chosen" - election, called out of – Eph. 1:4; 1 Pet. 2:9; John 15:16

God's power – "vessel" - 2 Tim. 2:20-21; 2 Corinthians 4:7;

God's protection – "of Mine"

v. 15b "to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. - As to the scope of his ministry "to bear – bastazo - carry" - carry w/hands or shoulder – cf. - Galatians 6:2, 5, 17 – bearing a great burden - Matthew 3:11 (carry); Luke 14:27; John 16:12; 17:14; Acts 15:10; Romans 15:1; Revelation 2:2

v. 16 "I will show him" – As to the suffering he would experience - "to place under his eyes" - noun – means "example" – (2 Corinthians 11:16-28) Do you suppose the Lord showed him all of these things? Would you have answered this call from the Lord?

THE RESULTS OF HIS ENCOUNTER WITH SAUL – Acts 9:17-19

v. 17 "laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me He established a close and person relationship with Saul

By laying his hands on him

By calling him "Brother"

By confirming the validity of what Saul had seen - "the Lord Jesus who appeared to you ...has sent me"

v. 17b "that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." - He encouraged Saul with what God would do – receive your sight be filled with the Holy Spirit - Up until this point, as far as the record is concerned, the Holy Spirit was imparted to the believers by the ministry of the apostles.

APPLICATION

Do you fully understand that you are a vessel, an instrument, that God wants to use?

Acts 9:15 is a good summary of Paul's life and ministry. It was all of grace, for he did not choose God; it was God who chose him (1Tim. 1:14). He was God's vessel (2Tim. 2:20-21), and God would work in and through him to accomplish His purposes (Eph. 2:10; Phil. 2:12-13). God's name would be glorified as His servant would take the Gospel to Jews and Gentiles, kings and commoners, and as he would suffer for Christ's sake. This is the first reference in the Book of Acts to the Gospel going to the Gentiles (see also Acts 22:21; Acts 26:17).

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<p><i><u>Act 9:18 Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales,</u></i></p> <p><i><u>and he received his sight at once;</u></i></p> <p><i><u>and he arose and was baptized.</u></i></p> <p><i><u>Act 9:19 So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus.</u></i></p>	<p><i><u>v. 18 “Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, Saul experienced the power of God –</u></i></p> <p><i><u>v. 18b “and he received his sight at once”; He regained his sight</u></i></p> <p><i><u>v. 18c “and he arose and was baptized”. - He received baptism</u></i></p> <p><i><u>v. 19 “he was strengthened”. - He recovered his physical strength</u></i></p> <p><i><u>Lord Lyttleton – “the conversion and apostleship of Paul alone, duly considered, is itself a demonstration sufficient to prove Christianity to be a divine revelation.”</u></i></p>	<p><i><u>Are you seeing the Lord and the things of the Lord more clearly than ever before?</u></i></p> <p><i><u>Have you really received spiritual sight?</u></i></p>
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		<p><u>Questions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Acts 22:12 speaks of Ananias as, “a devout man according to the law”. What similarity does that have to Saul? Can you see God’s grace here in salvation?2. What terms are used in today’s study to indicate that Ananias is a believer in Jesus Christ? Was he an apostle or a deacon?3. Can you see the emphasis put on the person, in this case Ananias, leading another to Christ?4. How does the Lord confirm to Ananias that He has prepared Saul for what Ananias is to do with him? Do you think that God prepares the way for you to speak to others about the gospel?5. What was Ananias’ reaction to God’s call? Do you find yourself often of reminding God of the problems facing you in your witness? What would have most likely been Ananias’ reaction if he would have seen how God was going to use Saul/Paul in the future?6. How many times did God tell Ananias to “go”?7. What did Ananias say to remind God of what He had already allowed Saul to do against the church? (v. 13)8. Do you think Ananias’ voice was the first Christian’s voice that Saul heard? If so, what was the importance of that?9. What were three things mentioned in the Lord’s response in verses 15 & 16, concerning Saul? Are you surprised that the promise of suffering was included?10. v. 15 speaks of Saul being “a chosen vessel of Mine” – are you aware that you also are a chosen vessel. How so?11. What word in v. 15 is used to describe the burden we must carry of being a true Christian? Do you understand what that means to you?12. v. 17 - What four things did Ananias do or say which would have been an encouragement to Saul?
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