

*THE CONVERSION OF SAUL, PART TWO – ACTS 9*

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**I. Review**

- A. Background in Judaism
- B. The Pharisees
- C. The “wild boar” of the Church

**II. Theological Impact of the Conversion**

- A. New Creation (Acts 9:3 [note 2 Corinthians 4])
- B. The Reality of the Body of Christ (Acts 9:4-5)
- C. Resurrection as New Covenant/New World (Acts 9:4-5)
  - 1. The Hope of Israel (Ezekiel 37; 47)
  - 2. Paul’s Own Hope (Acts 23:1-11)
  - 3. The Gentiles Converted (Isaiah 42; 46; 65; Hosea 1-2; Amos 9 [note Acts 15])
  - 4. Paul’s “Gentile theology” (Romans 15:8-13, 20-29)
    - Inescapable implications for what justification “does” at the human/communal level (Galatians 2-3)
    - The “seed of Abraham”
- D. Conversion as Blindness to Sight (Acts 9:8-9)
  - 1. The three days of Paul’s “burial”
  - 2. Baptism as resurrection (Acts 9:18-19)
- E. Scope of the Gospel (Acts 9:15)
- F. Suffering as Vocation (Acts 9:16)
  - 1. Suffering for the Gospel – a fellowship/communion with Christ (Philippians 3:10ff)
  - 2. Suffering as service for/on behalf of the Church (Colossians 1:24)
  - 3. Suffering in Multi-faceted ways (2 Corinthians 11)
    - The Power of Weakness and the Weakness of Power
  - 4. Suffering as Revelation (2 Corinthians 1-2)

**III. Time to Ponder**

- A. Paul meets with immediate success and opposition (Acts 9:19-25)
- B. Back home to Tarsus (note the result in Jerusalem (Acts 9:31))
- C. Not from men (Galatians 1:11-24)
  - “They glorified God because of me.”
    - The testimony that should be sought by us all.