

PAUL THE CHANGED MAN.

INTRODUCTION:

A. Read the text: Acts 9:1-8.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Saul of Tarsus opposed Christ and the church.
 - 1) **1 Tim. 1:13.**
 - 2) **Acts 22:4.**
2. **Acts 9; 22 and 26** record his conversion.
3. At his conversion, he became a changed man.
 - 1) Paul went from persecutor to preacher.
 - 2) Paul went from consenting to contending.
 - 3) Paul went from popular to persecuted.

DISCUSSION:

I. PERSECUTOR TO PREACHER.

- A. There was no doubt of Paul's previous persecutions (Acts 8:3-4; 9:1-5; 22:1-5; 26:9-11; Gal. 1:13).**
- B. Soon after his obedience to the Gospel, Paul became a powerful preacher (Acts 9:18-22, 27-29; 26:22-23; 1 Cor. 1:14-17; 2:1-2; Gal. 1:23; 1 Tim. 1:12).**
 1. He believed so strongly in Christianity that he made three missionary journeys preaching the Gospel.
 2. He believed so strongly in Christianity that he was willing to die to stay faithful (Acts 21:13; 2 Tim. 4:6-7).

II. CONSENTING TO CONTENDING.

- A. Paul, known as Saul, was present and approved of the stoning of Stephen (Acts 7:51-8:1; 22:19-20).**
- B. Paul greatly regretted his previous way of life (1 Cor. 15:9-10; Eph. 3:6-9; Phil. 3:4-11; 1 Tim. 1:12-15; 2 Cor. 7:10).**

III. POPULAR TO PERSECUTED.

- A. Remember again the life that Paul once lived (Phil. 3:4-6; Acts 22:3, 5; 26:4-5).**
- B. Think about all of the suffering that Paul endured because of Christianity (2 Cor. 11:23-28; 2 Tim. 1:11-12).**

IV. CONCLUSION.

- A. Changes are made when one becomes a Christian.**
 1. **2 Cor. 5:17.**
 2. **Rom. 6:4-6.**
 3. **Rom. 13:13-14.**
- B. The change was clearly seen in Paul's life (Gal. 2:20).**
- C. He heard the gospel; he believed the gospel; he repented; he confessed Christ; and he was baptized. He then lived his life according to the gospel of Christ (Phil. 1:21).**