

Nine Questions from Acts Nine

Introduction: *Conversion*

1. Acts 3:19 – the solution to sin is conversion
 2. Conversion is the point in time when God removes one's sins.
 3. Two Models of Conversion
 - a. Man's Way (cf. Jeremiah 10:23)
 - b. God's Way (cf. Book of Acts)
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- I. Acts 9:1-2 **Saul Was Sincere & Religious**
 - A. Is he saved yet?
 - B. He was sincere (22:9).
 - C. He was a servant – but, misinformed.
 - D. Matthew 7:21-23 – *Saying is not serving*
 - E. We do not accept sincerity alone in other areas – i.e. Medical Tests

 - II. Acts 9:3 **Saul Saw a Light from Heaven**
 - A. Is he saved yet?
 - B. This was a real, miraculous event (26:13).
 - C. Many (if not all) claims today cannot be substantiated.
 - D. Yet, experiences are subjective.

 - III. Acts 9:4-5 **Saul Heard the Voice of Jesus**
 - A. Is he saved yet?
 - B. God speaks today through His Word (Hebrews 1:1-2).
 - C. God speaking does not prove salvation (Gen. 3:16-19).

 - IV. Acts 9:6 **Saul Received Instructions from Heaven**
 - A. Is he saved yet?
 - B. The Gospel is to be preached by man (Matthew 28:19-20).
 - C. Jesus did not appear to save Saul (cf. Ac. 26:16-18).
 - D. Obedience was essential. {*Note that Saul had faith (cf. "Lord").*}

 - V. Acts 9:7-9 **Saul Experienced Godly Sorrow and Repented**
 - A. Is he saved yet?
 - B. Why did Saul not eat for three days?
 - C. He sure seems miserable for a saved man!

 - VI. Acts 9:10-11 **Saul Prayed**
 - A. Is he saved yet?
 - B. Does prayer save? (Cf. Acts 10:1-6; 11:14)
 - C. Did Saul pray the "sinner's prayer?"

 - VII. Acts 9:12 **Saul Saw a Vision**

- VIII. Acts 9:17 **Saul Witnessed a Miracle**
- A. It was actually performed upon him.
 - B. But, that does not prove salvation (cf. 13:9-11; Matthew 9:1-7).
- IX. Acts 9:18 **Saul Was Baptized** (cf. 22:12-16)
- A. Is he saved yet?
 - B. Did Ananias obey God? {*If yes, then this is the record of God's instructions for what Saul "must do."*}
 - C. Before baptism, Saul still had sins that needed to be washed away.
 - D. Thus, Paul was not saved on the road to Damascus.
 - E. Furthermore, "calling on the name of the Lord" does not equal prayer.
 - F. YES! (Revelation 1:5; Romans 6:3-4) Saul was cleansed by the blood of Christ when he obeyed God's command to be baptized.