

Showing the Way of Salvation and Opening the Eyes of the Blind II

*But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now **I send thee, To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.** Whereupon, O king Agrippa, **I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:** But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, **that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.***

-Act 26:16-20

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S MATERIAL:

In the book of Acts we find the followers of Jesus doing just that, following (Matt. 4:19; 1 Pet. 2:21) Jesus in HIS good works (Acts 10:38). There is not another book in the Bible that is more action packed than this book. What were they specifically doing? They were showing people *the way of salvation*.

The entire Book of Acts is a book (often referred to as the Gospel of the Holy Spirit) where the followers of Christ are reaching people!

In the same manner that Christ came to seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10), we too must commit ourselves to doing the same. In other words, they were simply continuing to do the ministry that Christ did. And, we are commanded to do the same (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)!

Over the Next Two Months we have the opportunity to do the same:

- ★ *Won By One* -Chance to learn how to witness to the lost
- ★ *Fall Program* - A six week push to reach as many people as possible for Christ
- ★ *Friend Day Sunday*-A special day to reach as many friends, relatives, and neighbors as possible for Christ

This Week's Lesson:

The great Apostle Paul was a man, who was not only called by God, but like the other followers of Christ, was a man who lived his life with a "spirit of urgency

Because the Apostle Paul had a definite call from God on his life, he lived in the light of eternity and with a "spirit of urgency." Because of this he was:

- ★ Blinded to the *curse* of his past

He refused to allow either the *good* or the *bad* of his past to stop him from pursuing the *person* and *purpose* of Christ for his life (Acts 26:16-20; Phil. 3:7-14)

- ★ Blinded to the *cost* of his future

He was a man who simply set his face like a flint refusing to allow the circumstances of life keep him from reaching a lost and dying world for Christ (Acts 26:16-20; 2 Tim 3:10-12; 4:7; Heb. 12:1-2).

Isn't it about time that we all get to the place Paul got where we can say, "We were not disobedient to the heavenly vision?"

Last week we mentioned a few things we can do over the next few weeks. Let's review them:

- 1) **Get Involvement with the Fall Program**
- 2) **Carry Tracts with you everywhere**
- 3) **Invite Everyone You Can to Friend Day**
- 4) **Pray for God to do something big this Fall!**