

"SAUL: BLINDED TO SEE" Acts 9:1-31 April 9, 2017

When King Jesus speaks, people listen; lives are changed.

When the King speaks <u>your name</u>, wills bow, trust soars, and feet follow.

- I. Saul (1-9)
 - A. Bowing the will.
 - B. Trusting the King.
 - C. Following feet.
- II. Ananias (10-19a)
 - A. Bowing the will.
 - B. Trusting the King.
 - C. Following feet.
- III. Retooling a Chosen Instrument (19b-30)
 - A. A new direction
 - B. Rebuilt
 - C. Quality control

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

"THE SERVANT" Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

Historical Timeline:

Seven centuries before Jesus arrived on earth, the Spirit of God had spoken of Him through Isaiah, calling him the "servant". Although Israel imagined some of the "servant" passages to be references to themselves as God's people, the clear attribution of the "servant" to Jesus is unmistakable in this passage.

Passage Overview:

The contrasts found in the prophecy about this servant are stunning. He is high and lifted up, yet crushed and buried. People, even kings, will be astonished by Him, yet He is despised and rejected. He was cut off from the land of the living, yet he shall see his offspring.

The suffering servant willingly bears the sins of others, not His own. His suffering and death provides hope and life for many. The anguish of His soul ushers in a satisfaction that stretches far. The Holy One is satisfied that justice has been served. The Servant is satisfied with the fruit of His death. The judgment against sinners is satisfied, giving sinners rest in Him.

This passage graphically describes the agony of the cross. And it explains the need for Jesus' sacrifice: payment for our sins. But it also points to His resurrection. It foretells the countless souls that will experience forgiveness and life in Him. Jesus is presented as Suffering Servant, Savior, Mediator, and Victor.

Our hope and our life are in Him alone.

Reading for Next Week: Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12