

## Notes - Book of Acts Study, Part 40 – Wed, November 11, 2020

Acts 9:1-5

<sup>1</sup> *Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"*

<sup>5</sup> *"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.*

*"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied.*

*Jesus made this story personal.*

Acts 8:1

<sup>1</sup> *...On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.*

*Is Jesus aware of your struggles? Is He aware of the problems you face?  
Is he aware of you?*

Isaiah 49:14-16

<sup>14</sup> *But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me,  
the Lord has forgotten me."*

<sup>15</sup> *"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast  
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?  
Though she may forget,  
I will not forget you!*

<sup>16</sup> *See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;  
your walls are ever before me.*

Psalms 139:1-18

*Jesus is fully aware of you and your struggles, and He makes it personal.*

Zechariah 2:8

<sup>8</sup> *...for whoever touches you touches the apple of his eye-*

Psalm 17:8

<sup>8</sup> *Keep me as the apple of your eye;  
hide me in the shadow of your wings*

Acts 9:6-9

<sup>6</sup> *“Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”*

<sup>7</sup> *The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.*

Acts 9:10-12

<sup>10</sup> *In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!”*

*“Yes, Lord,” he answered.*

<sup>11</sup> *The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. <sup>12</sup> In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”*

Deuteronomy 31:8

<sup>8</sup> *The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.”*

Acts 9:13-14

<sup>13</sup> *“Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”*

*What do we do when God asks something that doesn't make sense? Obey!*

Acts 9:15-16

<sup>15</sup> *But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”*

1 Corinthians 1:18

*<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

1 Corinthians 1:27

*<sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.*

Acts 9:17-19

*<sup>17</sup> Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup> Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.*