

A Composite of Paul's Conversion (Columns)

Acts 9:1-19 NASB	Acts 22 NASB	Acts 26 NASB
<p>“1 Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder [KJV, “threatenings and slaughter”) against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest, 2 and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 And it came about that as he journeyed, he was approaching [KJV, NKJV, “came near”] Damascus,”</p>		
<p>“and suddenly a light”</p>		
<p>“from heaven flashed around him [KJV, “shined round about him”];”</p>		
<p>“4 and he fell to the ground,”</p>		
<p>“and heard a voice saying to him”</p>		
<p>“Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?”</p>		
<p>“5 And he said, “Who art Thou, Lord?” And He said, “I am Jesus”</p>		
<p>whom you are persecuting [NKJV & KJV adds in Acts 9, “It is hard for you to kick against the goads (KJV, “pricks”).”],</p>		
<p>“6 [NKJV, “So [KJV, “And”] he, trembling and astonished, said, “Lord, what do You want me to do?” Then the Lord <i>said</i> to him,”] but rise, and enter the city, and it shall be told you what you must do.”</p>		
<p>“7 And the men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice</p>		

<p>but seeing no one. 8 And Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing [KJV, "saw no man"; NKJV, "saw no one"];</p>		
<p>and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank. 10 Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Behold, here am I, Lord." 11 And the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Thy saints at Jerusalem; 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call upon Thy name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; 16 for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake."</p>		
<p>"17 And Ananias</p>		
<p>"departed and entered the house"</p>		
<p>"and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight, and be filled with the Holy Spirit."</p>		
<p>18 And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight,</p>		

and he arose and was baptized; 19 and he took food and was strengthened. Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus,		

A Composite of Paul's Conversion (Text)

Acts 9:1-19

1 Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder [KJV, "threatenings and slaughter"]) against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest,

2 and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

3 And it came about that as he journeyed, he was approaching [KJV, NKJV, "came near"] Damascus, _____ and suddenly a light _____ from heaven flashed around him [KJV, "shined round about him"] _____

4 and he fell to the ground, _____ and heard a voice saying to him _____, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" _____

5 And he said, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus _____ whom you are persecuting [NKJV & KJV adds in Acts 9, "It is hard for you to kick against the goads (KJV, "pricks")."], _____

6 [NKJV, "So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord *said* to him,"] but rise, _____

_____ and enter the city, and it shall be told you what you must do."

7 And the men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice _____ but seeing no one.

8 And Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing [KJV, "saw no man"; NKJV, "saw no one"]; _____ and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus.

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

10 Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Behold, here am I, Lord."

11 And the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying,

12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight."

13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Thy saints at Jerusalem;

14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call upon Thy name.”

15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;

16 for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name’s sake.”

17 And Ananias _____

_____ departed and entered the house

_____ and after laying his hands on him said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight, and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” _____

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, _____

_____ and he arose and was baptized;

19 and he took food and was strengthened. Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus,

(Acts 9:1-19, NASB).

A Composite of Paul's Conversion (Summary)

Paul was on his way to Damascus with letters (9:2) of authority and commission (26:12) from the chief priests (26:12) to bind and bring to Jerusalem any Jews found there who had embraced Christianity (9:2; 22:5). He was accompanied by others (9:7; 22:9,11 – officers?)

As he came near Damascus (9:3), about noon (22:6; 26:13), suddenly there flashed (9:3) from heaven a very bright light (22:6), above the brightness of the noonday sun (26:13). It shone round about him (9:3) and those that were with him (26:13).

Those that were with him saw the light (22:9) and heard a voice (9:7), but they did not understand what the voice said (22:9). Along with Paul (9:4), they all fell to the earth (26:14). The men with him, having heard the voice, but seeing no man, stood speechless (9:7).

He heard the voice saying to him in the Hebrew language (26:14), "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads." (26:14). Paul responded, "Who are you, Lord?" Jesus answered, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." Paul asked, "What shall I do, Lord?" (22:10). Jesus told him to rise and stand on his feet, and that he had appeared to him to make him a minister and witness to the things he had seen and the things yet to be revealed to him in order to deliver both Jews and Gentiles from the dominion of Satan that they find forgiveness of sins through faith in Christ (26:16-18). He also told him to go to Damascus, where he would be told what he must do (9:6; 22:10).

When he arose from the earth and opened his eyes, he could see nothing (9:8), the cause of blindness being the brightness of the light (22:11). Those with him led him by the hand into Damascus (22:11), where for three days he neither ate nor drank (9:9).

Ananias, a devout man of good report among the Jews (26:12), saw a vision in which the Lord instructed him to go to the street called Straight, to the house of Judas, where Saul was praying, and to lay his hands on him that he might regain his sight. Ananias hesitated due to Saul's reputation for persecuting Christians, but being assured by the Lord of Saul's selection by God to preach the gospel, he went (9:10-17). He came to Saul, and standing by him (22:13), laid his hands on him (9:12) and told him to receive his sight (22:13). Ananias explained why he was sent (9:17) and told Saul to, "Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins" (22:14-16).

Saul immediately received his sight, arose, and was baptized (9:18). He then ate some food and was strengthened (9:19).