

Paul: A Spirit led Servant

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Introduction: We are introduced to Saul at the stoning of Stephen and Saul was in agreement with putting Stephen to death. Saul was passionate about murdering anyone who belonged to the Way, both men and women. Saul has an encounter with the Lord on the road to Damascus. When you dissect the life of Paul. The modern interpreter discovers that he is a Spirit led servant for the Lord. The Holy Spirit used Paul to accomplish great things in order to fulfill His Holy Will.

Damascus Road Encounter: Acts 9: 1-9; 15-18

- Plans to murder disciples both men and women
- Road to Damascus
- Light from heaven
- Voice from heaven
- Lord had a plan for his life

Theological Expressions John 16:8

- Holy Spirit was involved in Paul encounter with the Lord
- Holy Spirit was there to convict Paul of his sin
- Holy Spirit was there to correct Paul of his ways
- People cannot hear to see the Lord without the Holy Spirit
- Holy Spirit brings about change in our lives

Spirit led Paul to Ananias Acts 9:10-18

- The Lord had a plan for Paul's life
- God used Ananias to fulfill his plan in the life of Paul
- Trust the Lord even if we don't understand

Theological Lessons

- Chosen by the Lord
- Belongs to the Lord
- Bear the name of the Lord before Gentiles and kings and Israel

- Suffering expected for the name of the Lord
- Filled with the Holy Spirit

Evidence of the Holy Spirit

- Proclaim Jesus
- Truth about Jesus (He is the Son of God)
- Changed life from murderer to proclaiming the Gospel
- Speaking the truth with boldness (empowered)

Spirit led Paul to Barnabas Acts 9: 26-29

- Barnabas brought Paul to the apostles
- Barnabas is known as an encourager
- Barnabas spoke up for Paul

Theological Lessons

- Every Christian needs a Barnabas in our lives
- Every Christian need someone to encourage them
- Holy Spirit led Barnabas to Paul
- Barnabas told the apostles how the Lord changed the life of Paul
- Barnabas told how the Lord was using Paul
- If you are filled with the Holy Spirit then there should be a change in your life
- Paul was speaking boldly to people who wanted to harm him or kill him
- If God has given you a gift, then you should desire to use it with boldness

Spiritual Lessons: Romans 8: 26-27

- Help for our physical and spiritual weakness
- Limitations of our prayer
- Spiritual intercedes for us
- Holy Spirit searches our hearts

- Saints' intercession
- Will of God

Spiritual Gifts: 1 Cor 12: 1-11; Romans 12: 6-8

- Given by the Holy Spirit
- Holy Spirit makes the decisions concerning the spiritual gifts
- Various gifts but one body 1 Cor 12: 13-22
- Gifts were given for a purpose Acts 1: 8
- Be a witness for the Lord
- Purpose for every gift
- Every gift is necessary

Love is the way 1 Cor 13: 1-3; John 13: 34-35

- Love is proof of the Holy Spirit
- Love is necessary
- Love is needed
- Gifts are nothing without love

Evidence of the Holy Spirit in our lives Acts 2:44-47

- Love
- Belief or Faith
- Unified
- Sharing with one another
- Take care of one another
- Found in the temple or in church
- Daily walk with the Lord
- Fellowshiping with one another, hospitality
- Sincerity of heart

- Praising God
- The Lord changing lives from sin to salvation

Spiritual Humility 2 Corinthians 12: 1-10

- Great revelations from the Lord
- Caught up into third heaven (Paradise)
- Inexpressible words from heaven
- Self-Exalting not permitted

Spiritual sufferings allowed

- Thorn in the flesh
- Messenger of Satan to torment me
- Prayers unanswered to remove the thorn in the flesh

God's Answer for my sufferings

- My grace is sufficient for you
- Power perfected in weaknesses
- Boast about weaknesses
- Content with weaknesses
- For Christ's sake
- Strength from weaknesses