

Maranatha Fellowship CRC
Farmington, NM 87401

Sunday, June 2, 2024, 10:00 AM

Message Series: Week 6: The Acts of the Apostles

Message: Saul's Conversion and His Stay at Damascus and Jerusalem

Scriptures: Acts 9:1-31

A Brief Preview:

Luke picks up the Book of Acts, where he left off in his Gospel. Acts record the initial fulfillment of the Great Commission of Mathew 28:19-20 as it traces the beginning and growth of the New Testament church. The Book of Acts perfectly realized Christ's last words before His ascension. Luke outlines the contents concisely and effectively, Acts 1:8: "You shall be witnesses to me in Jerusalem [Chapters 1-7], and in all Judea and Samaria [8-12], and to the end of the earth [13-28]." Thus, Acts traces the rapid expansion of the Gospel, beginning in Jerusalem and spreading throughout the Roman Empire.

Today's sermon focuses on Saul's conversion, Anania's ministry to him, Paul's early attempts at ministry and his stay in Damascus and Jerusalem.

Outline:

- I. Introduction
 - A. **Illus.** – 'I am His' – The Story of Thomas Bailey and David Kennedy
 - B. Who was Saul?
- II. Saul before his conversion (v. 1-2)
- III. The last appearance of Christ in His Glory to Saul (Acts 9:3-9)
- IV. Anania ministers to Paul (Acts 9:10-19a)
- V. Paul's early ministry attempts (Acts 9:19b-25)
- VI. Paul finally returns to Jerusalem (Acts 9:25-30)
- VII. The Church remains health (Acts 9:31)
- VIII. Conclusion
 - A. 'Be His,' serve God wholeheartedly even in suffering
 - B. Walk in the fear of the Lord, you are going to be encouraged by the Holy Spirit
 - C. Be blessed and increased in numbers