### Acts

## Chapter 9

1Well at the time, Saul was still breathing threats and murder against the Lord’s disciples.  
  
So he went to the High Priest 2and asked him to write letters that he could carry to the synagogues in and asked him to write letters that he could carry to the synagogues in <span class="placename">Damascusand asked him to write letters that he could carry to the synagogues in <span class="placename">Damascus</span> that would empower him to arrest anyone he found who belonged to The Way (both men and women) and to bring them back to (both men and women) and to bring them back to <span class="placename">JeruSalem (both men and women) and to bring them back to <span class="placename">JeruSalem</span> in chains.  
  
3But as he was getting close to Damascus, a light from the sky suddenly flashed all around him 4and he fell to the ground!  
  
Then he heard a voice say:  
  
 ‘Saul, Saul... Why are you persecuting me?’  
  
5And he asked:  
  
 ‘Who are you Lord?’  
  
Then he heard:  
  
 ‘I’m Jesus, the one you’re persecuting.’  
  
 ‘It’s hard for you to kick against the cattle prods.’  
  
6And he, trembling and astonished, said, ‘Lord, what would you have me do?’ And the Lord said to him: [spurious, copied from Acts 22:10 and Acts 26:14]  
  
 ‘Now, get up and enter the city, and there you’ll be told what to do.’  
  
7Well, as this was happening, the men who were traveling with him were speechless, because they heard the sound of a voice, but they couldn’t see anyone!  
  
8And when Saul got up off the ground, although his eyes were open, he couldn’t see. So they took him by the hand and led him into Damascus, 9where he remained blind for the next three days… And he wouldn’t eat or drink anything at all.  
  
  
  
10Meanwhile, there was a disciple named AnaNias in Damascus; and in a vision, the Lord called out to him saying:  
  
 ‘AnaNias!’  
  
And he replied:  
  
 ‘Here I am Lord!’  
  
11Then the Lord said:  
  
 ‘Get up and go to the house of Judas on Straight Street, and ask for a man called Saul of Tarsus. Look… He’s praying [right now]!  
  
12For in a vision he’s seen a man named AnaNias who will come and lay his hands on him so he can start seeing again.’  
  
13However, AnaNias [objected], saying:  
  
 ‘Lord, I’ve heard about this man from many people, and they’ve told me about all the bad things that he did to your Holy Ones in JeruSalem!  
  
 14‘He’s even been empowered by the Chief Priests to lock up everyone who calls on your name!’  
  
15But the Lord said to him:  
  
 ‘Go on, because this man is the one I’ve chosen to carry my name before nations, kings, and the sons of IsraEl. 16I’ll also make sure that he understands all the things that he’ll have to suffer on account of my name.’  
  
17So AnaNias went over to the house and went inside, and then he laid his hands on him and said:  
  
 ‘Saul, Brother,  
  
 ‘The Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here has sent me to restore your sight and to fill you with Holy Breath.’  
  
18Well at that, what looked like scales immediately fell from [Paul’s] eyes and he started to see!  
  
Then he got up and was immersed [in water], 19after which he started eating again and regaining his strength.  
  
So after that, he spent several days there in Damascus with the disciples. 20And he immediately started preaching in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of The God.  
  
21However, all those who heard him were shocked, and asked:  
  
 ‘Isn’t this the man who once ravaged those calling on this name in JeruSalem? And didn’t he come here for that same reason, to carry them back in chains to the Chief Priests?’  
  
22But Saul’s powers kept on growing and he really confused the Jews who lived in Damascus, because he gave them logical proofs that [Jesus] is the Anointed One. 23So after several days, the Jews finally met to discuss ways to get rid of him.  
  
24However, Saul learned about their plot against him, and because they were watching the city gates closely both day and night in order to arrest him, 25his disciples came to him one night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the city wall.  
  
  
26Well, when he got back to JeruSalem, he then tried to join with the rest of the disciples. However they were all afraid of him, because they didn’t really believe that he was a disciple!  
  
27But BarNabas finally came to his aid… He took [Saul] to the Apostles and explained to them what had happened to him on the road… Of how he’d seen the Lord and spoken to him, and of how he’d been boldly teaching in the name of Jesus while he was in Damascus.  
  
28So thereafter, [Saul] stayed with [the brothers], as he entered and left JeruSalem, preaching in the name of the Lord.  
  
29He also talked and argued a lot with the Greek-speaking Jews – but then they also attempted to do away with him. 30So when the brothers learned about their [plot], they took Paul to Caesarea and sent him on from there to Tarsus.  
  
  
  
31Well for some time thereafter, there was a period of peace for the congregations in Judea, Galilee, and Samaria. So [the brothers] kept on walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Breath, as they were growing [in numbers].  
  
  
32Meanwhile, as Peter was traveling around, he finally reached the Holy Ones who lived in Meanwhile, as Peter was traveling around, he finally reached the Holy Ones who lived in <span class="placename">LydDaMeanwhile, as Peter was traveling around, he finally reached the Holy Ones who lived in <span class="placename">LydDa</span>.  
  
33And there he found a man named AiNean who had spent 8 years lying flat on his back on a cot, paralyzed. 34So Peter said to him:  
  
 ‘AiNean,  
  
 ‘Jesus the Anointed One heals you.  
  
 ‘So now, get up and make your bed!’  
  
And at that he immediately got up!  
  
35Then when those who lived in Then when those who lived in <span class="placename">LydDaThen when those who lived in <span class="placename">LydDa</span> and the area of Then when those who lived in <span class="placename">LydDa</span> and the area of <span class="placename">ShaRonThen when those who lived in <span class="placename">LydDa</span> and the area of <span class="placename">ShaRon</span> saw [what had happened to] this man, many started turning to the Lord.  
  
  
36Well in Well in <span class="placename">JopPaWell in <span class="placename">JopPa</span>, there happened to be a disciple named Tabitha (which is translated as Dorcas [in Greek]), who was well-known for the good things she was doing and for helping others when they were in need.  
  
37However, one day she got sick and died. So they washed her body and laid her in an upstairs room.  
  
38Now, LydDa was fairly close to Now, LydDa was fairly close to <span class="placename">JopPaNow, LydDa was fairly close to <span class="placename">JopPa</span>; so when the disciples heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him to beg him to please hurry up and come to them.  
  
39Therefore, Peter got up and went with them.  
  
Well when he got [to JopPa], they took him upstairs to the room [where she was laid]. And there, all the widows came to him crying and showing him the many pieces of clothing that Dorcas had made for them while she was with them.  
  
40So after sending everyone outside, Peter got down on his knees and prayed.  
  
Then he turned towards the body and said:  
  
 ‘Tabitha,  
  
 ‘Stand again!’  
  
And at that, she opened her eyes… And when she saw Peter, she sat up!  
  
41So he gave her his hand and stood her [on her feet]... Then he called the Holy Ones and widows in and presented her to them alive. 42And before long, this event became so well known throughout And before long, this event became so well known throughout <span class="placename">JopPaAnd before long, this event became so well known throughout <span class="placename">JopPa</span> that many started believing in the Lord.  
  
43And thereafter, [Peter] stayed in And thereafter, [Peter] stayed in <span class="placename">JopPaAnd thereafter, [Peter] stayed in <span class="placename">JopPa</span> for several days, And thereafter, [Peter] stayed in <span class="placename">JopPa</span> for several days, <span class="placename">[in the home of] Simon the TannerAnd thereafter, [Peter] stayed in <span class="placename">JopPa</span> for several days, <span class="placename">[in the home of] Simon the Tanner</span>.