

Paul in Context

- 1 Saul the Pharisee
- 2 Apostle to the Gentiles
- 3 When I am weak then I am strong
- 4 Poured out like a drink offering

A controversial figure

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- A Jew, a Roman citizen, a Christian.

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- Saul used up to Acts 13:9; Paul used thereafter.
- No evidence that he *changed* his name. More likely, he preferred his Roman name when preaching to Gentiles.

What did he look like?

4

Acts of Paul 1:3 (AD 160)

... a man little of stature, thin-haired upon the head, crooked in the legs, of good state of body, with eyebrows joining, and nose somewhat hooked, full of grace: for sometimes he appeared like a man, and sometimes he had the face of an angel.

What did he look like?

Rublev
(Russian artist. c.1400)



What did he look like?

Vanni
(Italian artist, c.1400)



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What did he look like?

Rembrandt
(Dutch, 1600s)



What did he look like?

Tissot
(French, 1800s)



What did he look like?

5

Computer
reconstruction



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- A university town, noted as the home of several well-known philosophers, especially of the Stoic school.



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7



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- All freed slaves of citizens became citizens.
- Citizens enjoyed right to a fair public trial, exemptions from some types of executions and punishments, a right to have one's case heard before the emperor, freedom to travel throughout the empire.

Jewish heritage

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■ Philippians 3:4–6

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His Jewish ancestry was a big part of his personal identity.

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- Very best students left home and travelled with famous rabbi as a talmid.

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- Had many talmidim (500 or 1000?)

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- Acts 18:3; 20:34; 1 Cor 4:12; 2 Cor 11:9; 1 Thess 2:9; 2 Thess 3:8.

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Acts 23:6

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- Emphasised righteousness, obedience and discipline.

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- give advice on all areas of Torah.

Saul on the Sanhedrin?

15

Sanhedrin: Jewish
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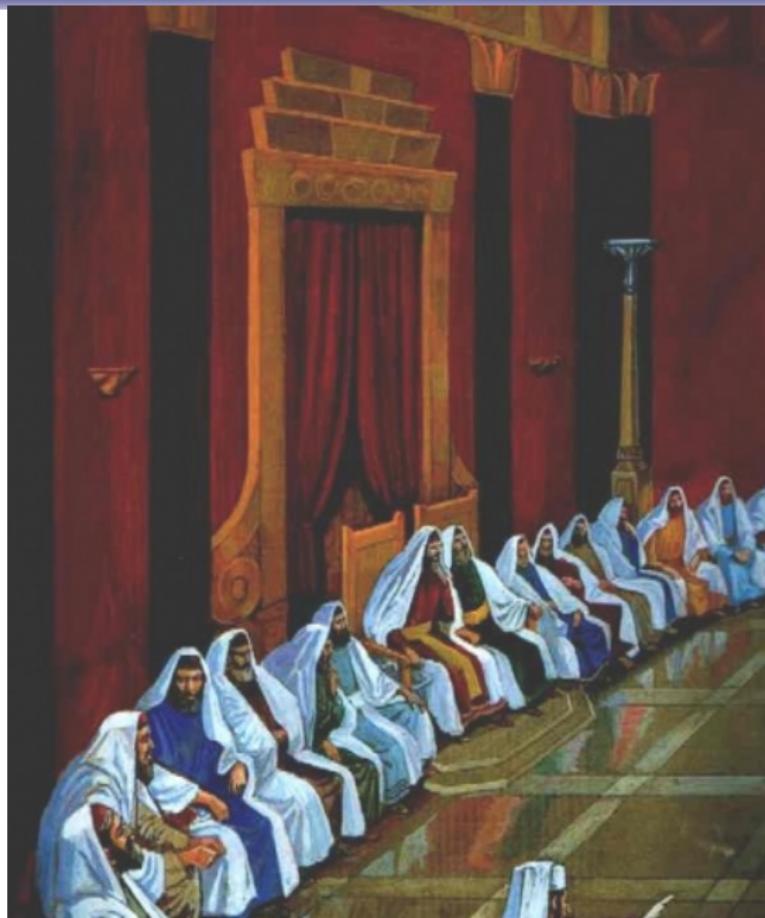
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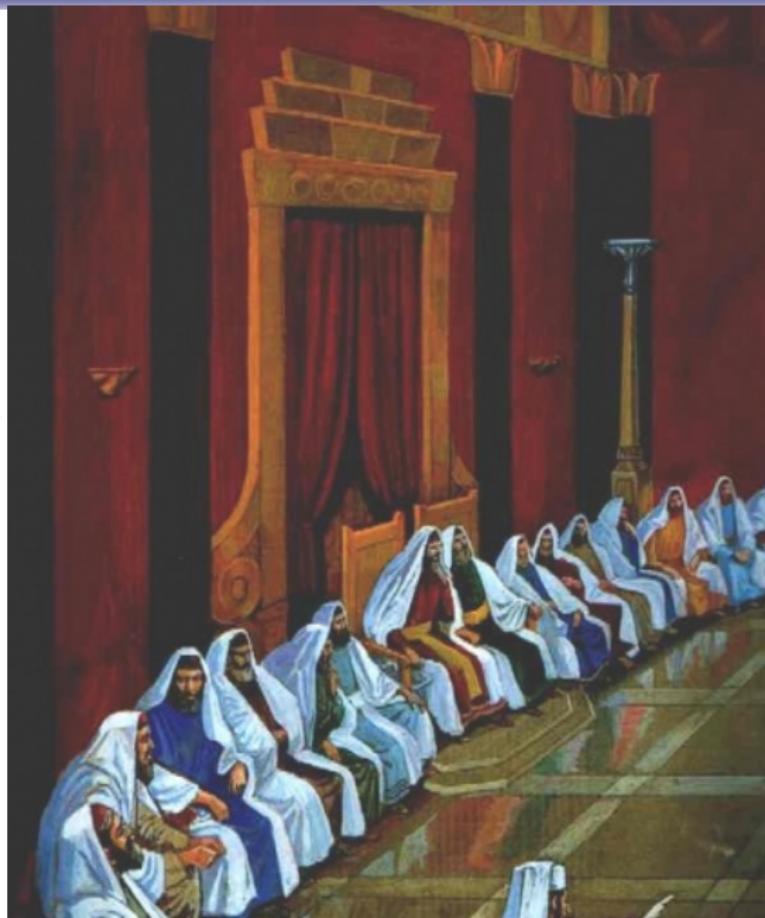
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- Acts 7:58
- Acts 26:10
- To be a member of the Sanhedrin, a man must be married and a father.



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- The persecution was a natural consequence of his zeal for God.

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- Would you have preached first in the synagogue?

In Damascus



In Damascus



Chronology of Paul

A.D.	LETTERS	ROME	PALESTINE
30	Jesus crucified and resurrected (30) Pentecost (30) <i>Acts 2</i>	Tiberius (14–37)	Pontius Pilate Roman procurator (26–36)
32	Stephen stoned (32) <i>Acts 7</i>		
	Paul converted (33) <i>Acts 9:1–22</i>		
34	Paul in Arabia and Damascus (33–36) <i>Acts 9:23–25; Gal 1:17–18</i>		
36	Paul's 2 week visit to Jerusalem (36) <i>Acts 9:26–30; Gal 1:18–19</i>	Caligula (37–41)	
38	Paul in Syria (Antioch) & Cilicia (Tarsus) (36–43) <i>Acts 9:30; Gal 1:21</i>		
40			
42		Claudius (41–54)	Herod Agrippa I king of Judea (41–44)
44	James the apostle beheaded (44) <i>Acts 12:1–2</i> Paul's trip to Antioch (44) <i>Acts 11:25–26</i>		
46	Paul's second visit to Jerusalem (46) <i>Acts 11:27–30</i> Paul's first journey (46–48) <i>Acts 13:2 – 14:28</i>		
48	Judaist contention at Antioch (49) <i>Acts 15:1–2; Gal 2:12–14</i>	Galatians from Antioch (49)	Jews expelled from Rome (49)

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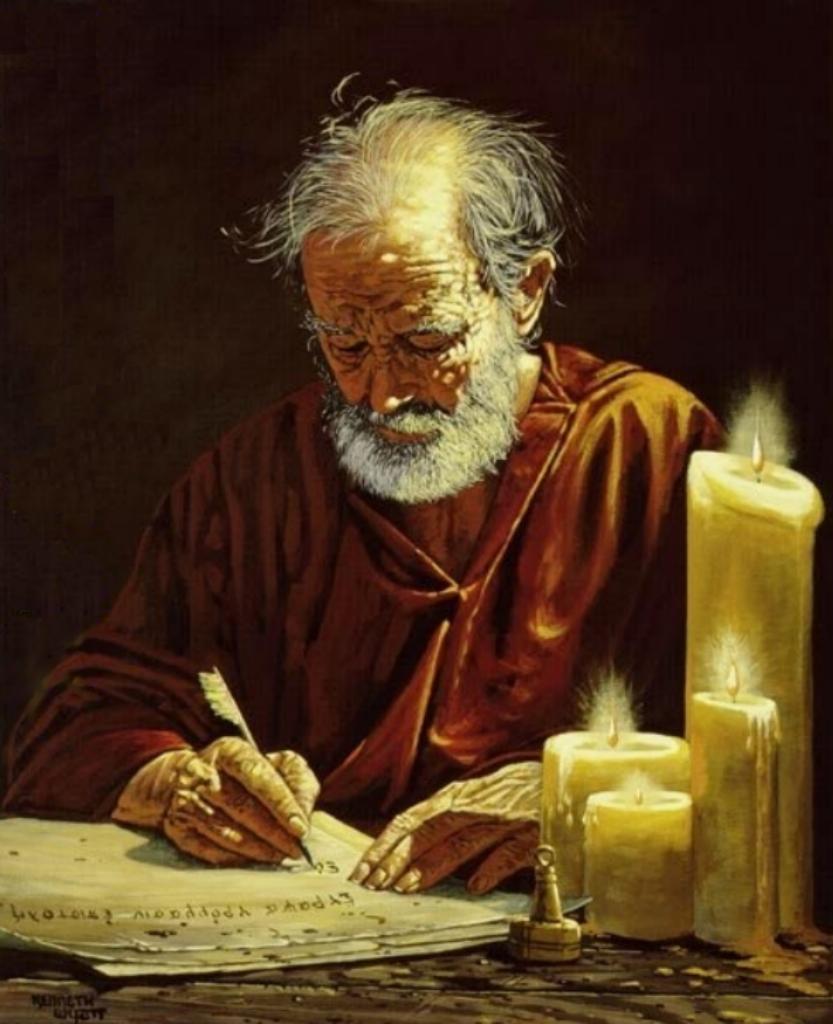
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- Stayed in Tarsus for eight years (Acts 11:25–26)



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