

Jesus' Appearance to Saul of Tarsus on a Road to Damascus from Acts Chapters 9, 22, and 26

³ *"I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated with strictness under Gamaliel according to the law of our ancestors, and was zealous for God just as all of you are today.*

⁴ *I persecuted this Way even to the point of death, tying up both men and women and putting them in prison, as both the high priest and the whole council of elders can testify about me.*

¹ Saul, still breathing out threats to murder the Lord's disciples, went to the high priest ² and requested letters from him to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, either men or women, he could bring them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

⁵ *From them I also received letters to the brothers in Damascus, and I was on my way to make arrests there and bring the prisoners to Jerusalem to be punished.*

¹² "While doing this very thing, as I was going to Damascus with authority and complete power from the chief priests.

³ As he was going along, approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.

⁶ *As I was en route and near Damascus, about noon a very bright light from heaven suddenly flashed around me.*

¹³ About noon along the road, Your Majesty, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining everywhere around me and those traveling with me.

⁷ *Then I fell to the ground and* ¹⁴ **when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? You are hurting yourself by kicking against the goads.'** ¹⁵ **So I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord replied, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.**

⁹ *Those who were with me saw the light, but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me.* ¹⁰ *So I asked, 'What should I do, Lord?' The Lord said to me,*

¹⁶ But get up and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this reason, to designate you in advance as a servant and witness to the things you have seen and to the things in which I will appear to you. ¹⁷ **I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you** ¹⁸ **to open their eyes so that they turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a share among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'**

The Lord said to me, 'Get up and go to Damascus; there you will be told about everything that you have been designated to do.'

(Now the men who were traveling with him stood ^{*} there speechless, because they heard the voice but saw no one.) ⁸ So Saul got up from the ground, but although his eyes were open, he could see nothing.

¹¹ *Since I could not see because of the brilliance of that light, I came to Damascus led by the hand of those who were with me.*

⁹ For three days he could not see, and he neither ate nor drank anything. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias.

* Pluperfect: 'having got up stood'.

¹² *A devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who live there.*

¹⁰ The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias," and he replied, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ Then the Lord told him,

"Get up and go to the street called 'Straight,' and at Judas' house look for a man from Tarsus named Saul. For he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and place his hands on him so that he may see again."

¹³ But Ananias replied,

"Lord, I have heard from many people about this man, how much harm he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to imprison all who call on your name!"

¹⁵ But the Lord said to him,

"Go, because this man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before Gentiles and kings and the people of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house.

¹³ *[He] came to me and stood beside me.*

¹⁷ [He] placed his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came here, has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

¹³ *'Brother Saul, regain your sight!'*

¹⁸ Immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see again.

¹³ *And at that very moment I looked up and saw him.*

¹⁸ He got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, his strength returned.

¹⁴ *Then he said, 'The God of our ancestors has already chosen you to know his will, to see the Righteous One, and to hear a command from his mouth, ¹⁵ because you will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶ And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on his name.'*

¹⁷ *When I returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance ¹⁸ and saw the Lord saying to me, 'Hurry and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.' ¹⁹ I replied, 'Lord, they themselves know that I imprisoned and beat those in the various synagogues who believed in you. ²⁰ And when the blood of your witness Stephen was shed, I myself was standing nearby, approving, and guarding the cloaks of those who were killing him.'²¹ Then he said to me, 'Go, because I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'"*

¹⁹ For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "This man is the Son of God." ²¹ All who heard him were amazed and were saying, "Is this not the man who in Jerusalem was ravaging those who call on this name, and who had come here to bring them as prisoners to the chief priests?" ²² But Saul became more and more capable, and was causing consternation among the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Christ.

¹⁹ **"Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, ²⁰ but I declared to those in Damascus first, and then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds consistent with repentance.**