**Paul’s Conversion**

**(Acts 9:1-19; Acts 22:1-16)**

1. **Chief Among Sinners**
	1. But, obtained mercy (1 Tim. 1:15-16)
	2. An insolent man (1 Tim. 1:12-14)
	3. Persecution (Acts 7:57 – 8:3; 9:1-2)
2. **Belief, Repentance, Confession, Baptism**
	1. *Belief* (acceptance of Jesus as Lord, indicated in conversation with Jesus on the road to Damascus) (9:3-6)
	2. *Repentance* (seen both in his acknowledgement of Jesus as Lord (9:6; 22:9) and in his three days mourning (9:9)
	3. *Confession* (acknowledged Lordship of Jesus 9:6) constantly confessed Jesus as Lord in his ministry (cf. 1 Cor. 1:9; Gal. 1:3-5; Eph. 1:3-12; Titus 1:4)
	4. *Baptism* (expressed as what Paul *“must do”* [9:6,18], or as the Lord’s instructions regarding what was required of him [22:10,16]. Purpose: to wash away sins [22:16]).
3. **Special Notes Concerning Paul’s Conversion**
	1. The Lord’s personal appearance was not a central or necessary part of his conversion. Many believe, *having “not seen…”* (cf. John 20:29).
	2. Paul was not converted on the road to Damascus. The text clearly states he must be baptized, and that the baptism was to *“wash away your sins”* (Acts 22:16). Logically, one can’t be converted if they still have sins that need to be washed away. Consider too, the state of mourning, (cf. 9:9) until such time as he was baptized. Immediately after baptism, he ceased mourning (9:19) (see also Acts 8:39; 10:48; 16:15; 16:34)

**Paul’s Apostleship**

**(Acts 9:15-16; Acts 22:13-15; Acts 26:15-18)**

1. **Apostleship was from God (Gal. 1:1, 11-17)**
	1. A chosen vessel (Acts 9:15; 22:14-15; 26:16)
	2. Called (Rom. 1:1; 1 Cor. 1:1; 2 Cor. 1:1-2; Eph. 1:1-2; Col. 1:1-3; 1 Thess. 2:4; 1 Tim. 1:1-2; 2 Tim. 1:1)
	3. An eyewitness of Christ (1 Cor. 9:1-2; 15:8-10) cf. Acts 1:21-22
	4. In no way inferior (2 Cor. 11:5-6)
	5. Born out of due time (1 Cor. 15:8)
	6. Least of the apostles (personal worthiness) (1 Cor. 15:8-10)
2. **To the Gentiles**
	1. To make them obedient (Rom. 15:18)
	2. To preach Him to them (Gal. 1:15-17; 1 Tim. 2:5-7)
	3. Work committed to him (Gal. 2:1-10; Titus 1:1-4)
	4. To make them fellow heirs (Eph. 3:1-7)
	5. Make known the mystery (Col. 1:24-29)
3. **His purpose as an Apostle**
	1. To die (1 Cor. 4:9-13). (To be fools for Christ’s sake).
	2. To labor and work on behalf of every man (Col. 1:28-29)
	3. To please God, not man (Gal. 1:10; 1 Thess. 2:4-9)