

ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST

Saul on the road to Damascus



FOCUS POINTS

1. What brought about Saul's incredible **TRANSFORMATION**?
2. The parable of the **GOADS**
3. What do we learn about **FORGIVENESS** and **GRACE** from Saul's encounter with Jesus?

FOCUS AREAS

1. What brought about Saul's incredible **TRANSFORMATION** from –
 - Saul the **DESTROYER** of the body of Christ to
 - Paul the **NURTURER** of the body of ChristWas is **Fear**? The **Blindness** he experienced?

Saul's Commission

- ◉ 'I am sending you to them to **OPEN THEIR EYES** and turn them from **DARKNESS TO LIGHT**...so that they may receive **FORGIVENESS** of sins...'


☞ Acts 26:18

2nd Focus Point

- ◉ **THE PARABLE OF THE GOADS**
 - ◉ Why did Jesus give it?
 - ◉ What does it mean?


THE PARABLE

- ◉ Paul's explanation in 1 Cor 15:55-56
- ◉ **The question:**
 - ◉ *O Death, where is your STING?*
- ◉ **The answer:**
 - ◉ *The STING of death is SIN and the STRENGTH of SIN is the LAW*



THE MEANING

- Paul tells us **death** has a **sting** which is caused by sin
- He explains that **sin** gets its deadly **strength** from a **particular** view of the law:
- The **Saul** view of **compliance** – Rom 7
- **NOT** the **Paul** view of **grace, faith** and **love** – Gal 5:6



SOME 'STINGS'

- Circumcision
- The Sabbath Day
- Washing of hands



3RD FOCUS POINT

- What do we learn about **FORGIVENESS** and **GRACE** from Saul's encounter with Jesus?




ATTRIBUTES OF LOVE

- LOVE is patient
- Kind
- Does not envy
- Does not boast
- Is not proud
- Is not rude
- Is not self-seeking
- Not easily angered
- Keeps no record of wrongs
- Does not delight in evil
- Rejoices with the truth
- Always protects
- Always trusts
- Always hopes
- Always perseveres
- **LOVE NEVER FAILS!**

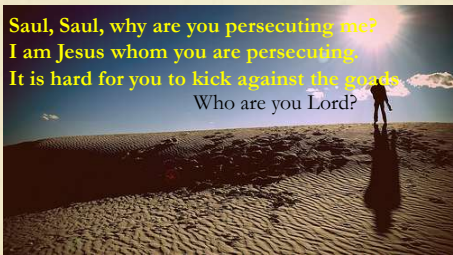


THE GRACE OF GOD

- **Grace** – Greek *charis*
- Strong's:
- 'the divine influence on the heart and its reflection in the life'



Saul's Encounter Acts 26:9-



Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?
I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.
It is hard for you to kick against the goads.
Who are you Lord?