

A WHOLE You in God! [Part 4] - May 19, 2010

Praise the Lord!

There is soooo much meat in the passage of scriptures below. I will take my time and work through it in small chunks!

If you take your time and read it slowly, you will get a glimpse of the very nature of God at work. It reads as though God wants you to see the inside of what He is really thinking and how He works in the hearts and minds of people...try it!

Acts 9:[7] The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! [8] Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. [9] He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink. [10] Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord!" he replied. [11] The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. [12] I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he can see again." [13] "But Lord," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! [14] And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name." [15] But the Lord said, "Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. [16] And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake." [17] So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." [18] Instantly something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized. [19] Afterward he ate some food and regained his strength. Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus for a few days. [NLT]

Both men knew the voice speaking was God Almighty. They both answered. One man was an unbeliever. The other man was a believer. One man was pursuing his misguided will. The other man was waiting to do God's will. One man was blinded. The other man received a vision. One man didn't question God but moved as God instructed. The other man questioned God's instruction before he moved with God's instruction. One man was waiting to receive a Word from God. The other man came and administered the Word of God. One man was converted to Christianity. The other man fellowshiped with the new convert for he was no longer Saul, but Brother Paul. Glory to God! Hallelujah!

This is an excellent example of God at work in the heart of an unbeliever and a believer! Excellent example! Paul experienced **positional sanctification** and was beginning his walk in **progressive sanctification**. God chose him. He didn't choose God. Paul had become a born-again Christian through his faith, spirit-filled and water baptism and received his call to minister the Gospel. This was huge! This is huge!

Take Home Message: It doesn't matter who you are and what you've done, there is still room for you at the Cross! Jesus Christ came for this very purpose. To die on the Cross, to shed His blood for the remissions of our sins, to be buried in a borrowed tomb, and most of all, He rose with all power in His Hands. We serve a true and living Savior! Accept Him today if you haven't. Grow deeper roots in Him if you have! Hallelujah! Thank you Jesus!

This was just the overview! We'll go deeper and in smaller chunks the next time!

God bless you all in Jesus mighty name!

Pastor Andra