

**Series: The Unstoppable Church**

**Title: All Things Are Become New**

**Text:** (Acts 9:17-22)

***Something is different about Saul.***

Something has changed. - Everyone could see it.

Everyone knew it. (Vs 23-24)

So much so, his old friends wanted to kill him

***What Happened to Saul?***

Explain the Circumstances of Acts 9)

Why go to Damascus, What happened, etc.

Saul Meets Jesus!

***Something is different @ Saul, He has a new Savior!***

***Saul asks the 2 most important questions in life.***

(Vs 5) *Who art thou Lord?*

(Vs 6) *What wilt thou have me to do?*

Saul spent the rest of his life fully getting the answer.

***Have you sought the answers to these questions?***

***Who is Jesus?*** Jesus=Jehovah Saves=Savior

You have to get this right or you don't go to heaven!

***Something is different @ Saul, has a new Sovereign!***

**(Acts 2:36) *Jesus is Lord & Christ.*** - Is Jesus Lord?

If we don't get this 1 right the last question doesn't matter!

***What does that mean that Jesus IS LORD?***

I think God knew we were going to have a struggle understanding this.

***Lord:*** *def A master; a person possessing supreme power & authority; a ruler; a governor, King.*

How many of you can explain this?

What does this mean? or Look Like?

How does this play out in our lives?

What does this look like tomorrow at 7:30 on the job?

Is He your Master? In All Things?

Is He the Master/Lord of your life?

***Jesus gave us the Proof Text:***

(Jn 8:31) *If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;*

***continue***~obey continually, for the rest of our lives.

Jesus is Referred to as Savior 24, Lord 433.

***IS Jesus the Master of our Lives?***

You cannot receive what He GIVES if you do not accept what He IS!

(Lk 6:46) *And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?*

***IS Jesus the Master of our Lives?***

***I love pictures.*** *A Picture really is worth a 1000 words*

I know pictures catch my eye & videos catch my heart

So God uses real life relationships to help explain our relationship to Him.

***Creator - Creation Relationship*** (Jn 1:1-3)

He made us, He knows what we are like.

He knows what's best. He is the OEM!

Gave us His the Operation Manual so we would know how to function within the given parameters.

***Sin is When we operate outside God's parameters.***

**Head - Body Relationship** (Eph 4:15-16, 5:23)

Governing/Operations: Intellect/Function

**Shepherd - Sheep Relationship**

He is our Provider, Protector, & Pathfinder.

**Parent - Child Relationship: Father and Daddy.**

He is Disciplinarian & Comforter

Admonisher and Nurturer.

He makes the rules and we are to follow them

**Husband - Wife Relationship** - (Eph 5)

Many of us have heard about this at a wedding.

Picture of a love relationship of Christ & His Church.

Husband Initiates love, Wife receives/responds to love

**Captain - Soldier Relationship** (Heb 2:10)

This is a picture of Authority & Discipline.

He's My Commander in Chief, -I am his soldier.

***Soldiers Train regularly to be Battle Ready.***

Are you Battle Ready?

Were you at every formation this past week?

**Soldiers don't decide when they serve.**

Are you an AWOL Christian.

**Soldiers don't Decide the mission.**

Did you advance into battle, or retreat?

*How about we stop arguing with Command, &*

*Carry out our orders & fulfill our Mission?*

**Jesus is Lord/ Master/ CIC/Sovereign**

Christianity is a Relationship: NOT Burger King!

Hey, *Give me an order of Jesus, Hold the Lord.*

**You cannot Receive what He GIVES if you do not Accept what He IS!**

**There is Something Different About Saul:**

*Has a New Savior!*

*Has a New Sovereign!*

*Has a New Sibling!*

Let's look at another Christian, who knew Jesus as Savior and Lord!

**(Acts 9:10)**

Ananias - A Leader in the Christian Community.

-Probably was the leader of the Synagogue.

-Was Open to & Listening for the Voice of God.

***Are we listening?***

Are we listening for God's Voice?

***God has voice recognition:***

God knows when its you!

***Do we know what God sounds like?***

We should know if we spent time with Him.

**(Acts 9:10) Ananias listened, & Responded!**

I AM HERE! - Present and ready for duty!

***I am in a Committed Relationship with my Phone!***

She keeps me organized, if its in my phone it happens!

***Does God fit into your Calendar app?***

Does God have a reoccurring appt on your calendar app?

*We constantly get notifications from our favorite apps.*

Is God's App running in the background?

Are we getting push notifications from the Spirit?

Ananias did!

**(Acts 9:11) Ananias knew Judas, & Judas' House.**

Ananias was probably friends from the synagogue.

*(Acts 22:12) And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there,*

***Ananias probably had not been invited back since his conversion.***

It happens, when We get saved.

Things change b/c WE change on the inside.

*(2 Cor 5:17) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

***Friendships/Acquaintances change, b/c we change.***

We now see others as a Mission field, rather than a pleasure escape.

We see them as a Ministry Opportunity, to encourage and Mentor, rather than a personal escape.

Or maybe they haven't changed b/c we haven't.

You don't leave your old friends, they leave you off.

Not B/c THEY changed, but B/c you have!

Are your lost friends comfortable around you? Why?

*They can cuss in front of you & not be selfconscious?*

*They can drink in front of you & not be selfconscious.*

***How is that possible?***

Either your Lost, or so Carnal they don't notice Christ in you. **So -Which is it?**

Ananias was about to go somewhere he was no longer welcome, to do the will of God.

**(Acts 9:11-12) Saul is waiting.**

This is a Divine Appointment.

Like a secretary setup appointments for you.

God divine appointments setup for you!

God has souls He has sovereignly ordained for you to reach out to with the Gospel!

You cannot control their responses, any more than

Ananias could have controlled Saul's.

But Ananias was only responsible to GO & DO!

Thats all we are responsible for ALSO!

GO & DO. God handles the results.

**(Acts 9:13-14)**

The Lord's work is not without some Anxiety.

The Lord's Work is a Step of FAITH.

*"We walk by faith, not by sight."*

*"The just shall live by faith."*

**15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way:**

(Don't Worry, I Got This) You are not Alone!

*for* (I need you to do this for me)

This is the specific will of God for Ananias to DO!

*he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:* I have a plan that is bigger than you or him.

**16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.** Neither He nor You can understand it now, but you you will get it later!

**17 And Ananias went his way,** (He Obeyed!)

The greatest Form of Worship is Obedience!  
*and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul,* (Saul just got a new Sibling!)  
*the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.*

This is the best Social Reform EVER!

*"brother"* - Family!

He Sent Ananias to lead him to Christ.

**(Vs 18-19)** God didn't leave Saul to his own devices.

God gave Saul an Older Brother, to Reach him.

God gave Saul a church family, to Mentor him.

**This is your job!** You may be the one sent to Reach. But Every single one of us is tasked with loving and Mentorship of the ones God brings us.

*Illus: We all know what Political Appointees are!*

This is your Divine Appointment!

You are God's Divine Appointee!

*You serve at the Pleasure of the Lord!*

**There is Something Different About Saul:**

*Has a New Savior!*

*Has a New Sovereign!*

*Has a New Sibling!*

**Has a New Statement, Subject, Solution, Service**  
**(Acts 9:20-22)**

WOW! What changed? - Saul, the Pharisee!

With all his OT knowledge, couldn't see Jesus til now.

(Acts 26:22-23) \*\*\*

He saw Jesus in the Creation story of Gen 1 & 2.

He saw Adam as a Type of Jesus.

He saw Jesus as the promised crusher of satan Gen 3

He saw Jesus as the lamb offering of Able Gen 4.

He saw the ARK as a Type of Jesus in Gen 6-9

He saw Jesus as the Promise to Abraham. Gen 12

He saw Isaac as a Type of Jesus in Gen 21

He saw the Substitute Lamb as a type of Jesus Gen 22

He saw Joseph as a Type of Jesus/rejected son Gen 38  
He saw Jesus in the Passover Lamb. Ex 12  
He saw Jesus in the Red Sea crossing. Ex 14  
He saw Jesus in the Tabernacle.  
He saw Jesus in the Levitical Law.  
He saw David as a Type of Jesus.  
He saw Solomon as a Type of Jesus.

(1 Cor 10:11) *All these things happened unto them for ensamples: & they are written for our admonition,*

***It Clicked!*** It all made sense now.  
We wouldn't understand the OT if not for Jesus!

***Saul had changed from the inside out!***  
(2 Cor 5:17) *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

***What Happened?***  
Well he got saved?  
Yes, but all of a people, "Got Saved"-But don't change  
Its more of a professional upgrade.

Saul used to live for himself, now lives for Christ.  
Saul used to live in the flesh, now lived in the Spirit.

Saul used to view things from a carnal, humanistic point of view, Now he see things from the scripture.  
He is a new creature. He had been born again.

The old habits, attitudes, values, & thinking fading away & his new life in Christ was sprouting forth.

Like a vibrant new stem in the spring, pushing up beside the dead brown plant of last season,

New life in Christ is transformation from inside out.  
*"All things are become new."*

**How did this Happen?** - Saul was Born Again!  
Not Baptism, Not Reformation, Not an Experience

**Saul Realized he was Spiritually Dead:**  
(Eph 2:1) *& you hath he quickened, who were dead in*

**Saul Realized he was Condemned:**  
(Jn 3:18) *he that believeth not is condemned already*

**Saul Realized he had the wrath of God on him:**  
(John 3:36) *he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

**Saul Realized he was lost, yet sought by Jesus:**  
(Luke 19:10) *Seek & to save that which was lost.*

**Saul Believed the Gospel in his heart:** (Rom 10:9)

**Saul Called upon the name of the Lord:** (Acts 22:16)  
*Arise, ... wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*

Saul Repented of His Sins: (Acts 17:30) *God ... commandeth all men every where to repent:*

**There is Something Different About Saul:**

***A New Savior! A New Sovereign! A New Sibling!  
A New Statement, Subject, Solution, Service***

***How can we say that we are saved, knowing what we know about Sin, Death, & Hell and not tell others about Jesus?***

Are You Saved? - Who Have You Told?  
(Rom 10:11) *Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. - Are you Ashamed?*

(Acts 9:20-22) **& straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. 21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?**

He destroyed the church, now he builds it.  
*Are you saved, Are you building it?*

He blasphemed the name of Christ, now He publicly proclaims Christ.

*Are you saved, are proclaiming Christ publicly  
Does your co-workers know?  
Does your Instagram followers know?*

*Do your neighbors know b/c your faithful to church?*

*Does your family know b/c your faithful to church?*

The change was so apparent, everyone could see it.  
*Are you saved? Can others see it?*

*Do you love others that are not your blood?*

*Do you love your Brother & Sisters in Christ?*

***Well, Some of them,***

(John 13:35) *By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*

“The Jesus in me loves the Jesus in them”

Maybe thats why you have a hard time loving, there is NO JESUS IN YOU?

**Where is the Change?**

Where is the Love?

Where is the Witness?

Where is the Obedience?

Where is the Faithfulness?

where is the Sacrifice?

***Saul Gave Up Everything for Christ!***

(Phil 3:3-13)

Pedigree, Family, Friends, Educational Credentials

Political Career, His Identity - Name Changed to Paul

***Is there Something Different about You?***