

## Acts 9

- \*here we meet one of the greats on whom the faith was built: Paul of Tarsus
- \*studied under Gamaliel, tent maker by trade
- \*a Greek speaking Jew of the Diaspora
- \*he hates the Church? Perhaps because it is already attractive to him
- \*The Way: an early name for the Church, as in "I am the Way, etc.)
- \*why are you persecuting me: whoever harms a disciple harms Jesus himself
- \*three days (like the Triduum) of darkness b/c he was in spiritual darkness
- \*fasting: a lost art
- \*Ananias - one more reluctant messenger (cf Jonah, Jeremiah, Isaiah
- \*v. 15 a chosen instrument
- \*laying on of Hands: God works through men to accomplish His Will
- v.20 proclaiming in the Synagogues: this is a prototype for how Paul worked
- v.26 they are afraid of him - who would not be?
- #note the number of times we hear "he spoke" - that is our call too
- Barnabus: son of encouragement: a levite, also a student of Gamaliel,
- bp of Milan
- \*section ends with the church being at peace

Paul a prolific NT author: Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, 1 Thessalonians, Philippians, Galatians Philemon with other attributions  
Deutero Paul: 2 Thess, Ephesians Pastorals  
Concerned with \*declaring Jesus as Lord  
\*Founding Churches, \*Church Order, \*Justification

- \*meanwhile: back with Peter - the NT ties these two together
- \*Cornelius: a devout Centurion
- \*the issue of diet (soon: circumcision)
- \*behind this is the obligations of gentiles
- \*God calls Cornelius: God is One without partiality
- We note no sense of nationalism, resisting the idea of chosen people: relation of religion vs political loyalty
- v. 38 "anointed" Him v. 39 "witnesses"
- Cornelius converts, but "they" are all baptized