Life of Paul

Lesson #06

Proverbs 16:33

"33 The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the Lord."

Acts 9:1-9

"1 Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest, ² and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; 4 and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'

"5 And he said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, ⁶ but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do.' ⁷ The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. ⁹ And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank."

Acts 22:1-11

"6 But it happened that as I was on my way, approaching Damascus about noontime, a very bright light suddenly flashed from heaven all around me, ⁷ and I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?' 8 And I answered, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus the Nazarene, whom you are persecuting."

Acts 26:4-18

"14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew dialect, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' 15 And I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting."

"Therefore"

Paul is now drawing to a conclusion and application to his general audience.

Acts 3:17

"⁷ And now, brethren, I know that you acted in ignorance, just as your rulers did also."

Acts 14:16

"¹⁶ In the generations gone by He permitted all the nations to go their own ways."

Sins in past times were tolerated. However now that Christ has died on a cross and raised from the dead, God is ready to forgive His people's sins that were committed in the past.

METANCŌ

"Permanent command of perpetual force."

Acts 2:38

"³⁸ Peter said to them, 'Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Luke 13:1-5

"1 Now on the same occasion there were some present who reported to Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ² And Jesus said to them, 'Do you suppose that these Galileans were greater sinners than all other Galileans because they suffered this fate? ³ I tell you, no, but <u>unless you repent</u>, you will all likewise perish. ⁴ Or do you suppose that those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them were worse culprits than all the men who live in Jerusalem? ⁵ I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

Scrutiny

Psalm 90:8

"8 You have placed our iniquities before You, <u>Our</u> secret sins in the light of Your presence."

Romans 2:15-16

"15 In that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, ¹⁶ on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the <u>secrets of men</u> through Christ Jesus."

John 5:22,27

"22 For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son."

"27 And He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man."

I Thessalonians 1:9-10

"9 For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come."

Paul's teaching, that God "overlooked the times of ignorance," does not mean that God has different standards of judgment.

"In all these places it is implied that the coming of Christ means a fresh start . . . Let all men therefore repent of their former ignorance (with all disobedience to God which it involved) and submit to the true knowledge of God now made available in the gospel."

The requirement of Repentance is the requirement of all Evangelism.

Repent

Acts 2:38; 3:19; 8:22; 17:30; 26:20

Repentance

Acts 5:31; 11:18; 13:24; 19:4; 20:21; 26:20

Felt needs are not the basis for evangelism, while man's most urgent need is the basis of evangelism – the wrath of God.