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Saul's Damascus Road Conversion

(Acts 22:1-21; Acts 26:1-23)

There are only 2 Religions that God authorized and ordained: Judaism and Christianity (Big C) Church. Judaism was based on the Law and Christianity the Church (Big C) is based on relationship.

All religions regardless of how well organized; all are man-made; Baptist, Catholic, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, Methodist etc. to name a few. All cults are also, all man made. One sign they are man-made is that they change over time; change doctrine.

Christianity, (Big C) Church has not changed in 2 thousand years, it has only grown adding True Believers as people are moved by the Holy Spirit to confess their sins and ask Christ to come into their hearts and to rule their lives.

Any conversion to Christianity is a miracle of God but perhaps no conversion effected the True Church (big C) Church that Christ inaugurated more than the conversion of Saul of Tarsus (Paul). Paul would write 13 books that were to be in the Christian Bible.

- Romans
- 1 and 2 Corinthians
- Philemon
- Galatians
- Philippians
- 1 and 2 Thessalonians
- Ephesians
- Colossians
- 1 and 2 Timothy
- Titus

But before Saul met Christ, he was perhaps the greatest antagonist of the Church which was called early on; “the way”.

1And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

The term “slaughter” used here according to Strong’s Concordance in Hebrew means:

*“φονου noun - genitive singular masculine
phonos fon'-os: murder -- murder, + be slain with, slaughter.”*

Saul was apparently of the opinion the only good Christian was a dead Christian. If not dead at least put into prison obviously an effort to protect the Jewish religion from in his opinion; heresy.

In order to have authority to carry out his personal war that was in line with religious leaders at the Sanhedrin, he needed the

religious leadership to embrace his tortured path and give him authority through letters to Jewish leaders in Damascus.

As we move through these end times we will see a similar process of people committed to the New World Order attacking both Christians and Jews even more vehemently than Saul of Tarsus did.

This prophecy embraced what Saul of Tarsus started but raged on. Jesus warning here is directed at the Jews who became Christians.

John 16:2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.

Jesus healed a blind man from birth and the blind man's parents were afraid to answer the Sanhedrin as to his infirmity due to the following.

John 9:22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews. For the Jews had already determined that anyone who confessed Jesus as the Christ would be put out of the synagogue.

Saul was hated by the pious Jews, and they took an oath to kill him. 40 of them banded together to kill Paul while in the care of the Roman guards. Acts 23:12-22

Consider this and I am making no comparison to Paul and Donald Trump. But we I think will see a similar banding together of some who will try to kill Trump either prior to or after a successful election of Trump.

WEF leadership

<https://www.weforum.org/about/leadership-and-governance/>

10 Jewish homosexuals high visibility you should know about.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/9-jewish-lgbtq-activists-you-should-know/>

Trump Patriotism can't solve global threats

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/sep/27/yuval-noah-harari-trump-patriotism-global-threats-sapiens>

The reason I say that is due to an interview by Yuval-Noah-Harari- of WEF says Trump is the most dangerous person to the path of WEF to a One World Government.

As to who the High Priest is it is an unknown, speculation puts the names of Caiaphas, Annas, or Annas' son Theophilus. Whoever it was it is most likely that he was a member of the Sadducees the more moderate sect of the Sanhedrin, as opposed to Saul's sect of Pharisees. However, as leaders of the Sanhedrin they were apparently convinced that an end of **"this way"** (Christianity) needed to be accomplished and worked with Saul of Tarsus.

2And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of **this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. (emphasis mine)**

The word used here to describe this (religious) path is called "this way" or THE WAY. According to Strong's concordance

"Phonetic Spelling: (hod-os')

Definition: a way, road

Usage: a way, road, journey, path".

We find this phrase from John the Baptist in Matthew

Matthew 3:3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye **the way** of the Lord, make his paths straight. (Emphasis mine)

According to Strong's concordance it is the same word that John the Baptist used in introducing Jesus to the World as Saul of Tarsus used in describing those whom he pursued in the name of God.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am *the way*, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (Emphasis mine)

Man in his depth of sin and desire for power will leave no possible stone unturned to accomplish his goal. One would think that the term “The Way”, would be a wonderful Biblical manner of describing the big “C” Church. However, man has twisted that term to create cults with about every other type of religion.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/The-Way-International.html>

Saul in vs 2 was seeking to find those who were caught in bondage to “this way”, meaning followers of Jesus.

The famous trip of Saul now begins.

3And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

This word “light” in Strong’s Concordance means:

“Phonetic Spelling: (foce)

Definition: light

Usage: light, a source of light, radiance”

The idea is that this illumination that engulfed Saul was a source of light. We find that source described in many verses but here are two.

2 Corinthians 4:6*For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

In this verse in 2 Corinthians God as we know created the light and, in this verse, God commands the light. It is the same Greek word; phos. This light emanating from Jesus the Messiah permeates our hearts and gives “light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Jesus Christ.” So, God used this particular light to give knowledge to Saul.

Matthew 17:2*And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.*

Here again in Matthew 17 we see the same Greek word for light; phos. It describes the apparel Christ was white AS the light; phos. This light was used by God to demonstrate the preeminence of His Son, Jesus Christ.

So, this light could reveal knowledge and reveal the living Messiah, Jesus Christ to Saul.

4*And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?*

There can be a reference here to a very rare group of people and events when Jesus used Saul’s name twice.

"Abraham, Abraham!" "Samuel, Samuel!" "Jerusalem, Jerusalem!" "Simon, Simon!"

[Genesis 22:11](#); [1 Samuel 3:10](#); [Matthew 23:37](#); [Luke 22:31](#)).

Abraham was about to slay his son Isaac, Samuel was called by God to become a prophet, in Matthew 23:37 God accuses Jerusalem of killing the prophets and lastly in Luke 22:31 Jesus tells Simon Peter that Satan has requested permission to sift him.

Each time legendary events were happening or about to happen. No less with Saul. Saul will become Paul and become one of the most prolific teachers of all time.

5And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

“It is hard to kick against the pricks” was a Greek proverb that all Greeks would know and any in Israel that spoke Greek would also know and understand. Farmers who used oxen had a long stick with a sharp point on it. It was called a “prick” and was used to poke the ox to keep them going in the direction that the farmer wanted. Sometimes the ox would rebel and kick against the stick “prick”. As the ox kicked the sharp point would go deeper into its flesh causing more pain. The Lord used this image to explain to Saul that if he persisted in his persecution of Him the pain would

continue to grow. He started with blindness, so what would Paul find next if he continued to fight against Christ?

*Proverbs 15:10 **10**Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die.*

6And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

Saul was a quick learner; one short conversation was all it took to get his undivided attention.

We know Saul went down to the ground when the light engulfed him, so Jesus tells him to “Arise” pick himself up and go into Damascus. Just, go is what Jesus told Saul, more to follow, in Jesus’ time.

7And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

Here again is the Spiritual dimension manifesting itself verbally in our dimension. Jesus could have easily manifested Himself so Saul could see Him, but Jesus must have determined that verbal would suffice.

8And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought *him* into Damascus.

Blind and guilty of fighting against the Messiah. Not a good start on his trip to persecute the Christians there.

9And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

This sounds like a reasonable response to be struck with blindness and being made blind by the Lord Jesus Christ, whom for the past few years you had been assaulting His Believers. Three days is an interesting amount of time as well. It took Jesus three days to accomplish all that Saul was going to learn resulted in Salvation to the world.

Here is a task for you!

Ananias Baptizes Saul

10And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I *am here*, Lord.

The correct response to God's inquiry about ones whereabouts is "I am here, Lord". In the military there is a statement that embraces a command and verifies that the person receiving the command not only understands it but is fully capable of carrying it and will do without delay. It is "I, I sir." Meaning I understand and I will carry out the order.

“Behold, I am here, Lord” has that same connotation. I am here, I hear you and I will do as you say, period.

11And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for *one* called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, 12And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting *his* hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

Woah, woah, woah, are we talking about the guy that has killed and jailed many Believers for just believing?

13Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: 14And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

Yep, that's the guy.

15But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: 16For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

These few words can scarcely touch the impact Paul would have on the Believing World even now these 2 thousand years later. That is just Paul, the mouthpiece of God, think about the impact of the Blood of Christ has had on the world 2 thousand years later.

How about Ananias, going into the lion's den to lay his hands on the lion himself, the man responsible for the death and incarceration of many believers.

17And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, 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.

Wow, what a prayer. Saul, you have been touched by Jesus the Messiah, the very one you have been harassing. Jesus touched you with blindness so that you could see. Jesus has sent me here to call you my brother, lay my hands on you as a sign from Him that He is my Lord and Savior. Not only that but you are going to receive the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit, the Living God that no longer resides in the Temple at Jerusalem but will live in you and all Believers now. You will receive your sight again, but not just to see in this dimension but to see what God has in His Spiritual Will for you.

18And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

Paul could see again and his first sight was this man Ananias who had been obedient to Jesus.

Curious thing is we see none of the Apostles having been baptized unless it was done by Christ Himself but is not mentioned.

19And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

Pretty cool time for the disciples in Damascus to now be brothers with the dreaded Saul of Tarsus, walking under the same Spirit from Jesus. Do you suppose it was tense at all when Ananias told the other disciples, “Guess who’s coming to dinner”?

Saul Preaches Christ at Damascus

20And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

The process is the same for all of us when we get saved. We are to preach the Good News to everyone we meet and and for those that Believe, if possible, baptize them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Mark 16: 15And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Notice the key to being saved is Believing. Obedience is to be Baptized, but being condemned is not for not being Baptized but for not Believing.

If you have not been baptized do it for Jesus as a sign of obedience.

21But 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?

Yep, same guy, “But God!”

Genesis 50:20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. (emphasis mine)

Sometimes after walking with God for a length of time, we might forget just how powerful He is. We get caught up in the world and seeing such powerful people seemingly operate with immunity. “But God” has a bit to say about those who would flaunt their injustice and perpetuate that injustice against not only innocent people but His children.

Have you ever heard the term “precatory prayer”? King David and several other contributors prayed to God what are called Precatory Prayers. It is asking God to bring vengeance on our enemies. Now you’d think if King David prayed it then it would be

the right thing to do. This prayer in Psalms is an example of a Precatory prayer.

Psalms 94:23 And he shall bring upon them their own iniquity, and shall cut them off in their own wickedness; yea, the LORD our God shall cut them off.

How are we as Believers in the One who while hanging on the cross for all sin said:

Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

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God directs us, commands us to pray for our enemy's.

James 3:17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

This is from "Got Questions" about praying for our enemies. Four reasons we should treat them like we want to be treated.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/pray-for-your-enemies.html>

"1. We can pray that God will "open the eyes of their hearts that they will be enlightened" about truth ([Ephesians 1:18](#)).

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

When enemies set themselves against us, they lack understanding. They are reacting from the flesh instead of

responding from the Spirit. We can pray that God will open their hearts with understanding so that they will learn from their mistakes and grow wiser.

Was that ever you?

2. As we pray for our enemies, we can pray for their repentance.

[Second Timothy 2:25](#)

In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

It is God who softens hearts enough for repentance. When we pray for our enemies to repent, we know we are praying in accordance with God's will because He also desires their repentance ([2 Peter 3:9](#)).

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

3. When we pray for our enemies, we can ask that our hearts will remain soft and useful if the Lord wants to use us to accomplish His plan in the lives of our enemies. ([Proverbs 15:1](#)).

A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.

When we return anger for anger, wrong for wrong, we put ourselves on the same level as our enemy. But when we respond with kindness, gentleness, and mercy, the situation is often diffused within moments. Nothing is more convicting than a gentle response to a hateful, rude action. It's what [turning the other cheek](#) is all about (see [Matthew 5:39](#)).

But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Satan desires discord, so he tries to stir up our fury and coaches us to respond in kind. We should pray that God keeps our hearts soft toward the offenders so that His goodness will be revealed to them through us.

4. As we pray for our enemies, we can pray that God will work in their lives because of this offense to bring about His purposes. Jesus taught us to pray, ([Matthew 6:10](#)).

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

It is always right to ask that God's will be done in any situation. We should pray until we want what He wants. If He wants to bless our enemy, we want that, too. If He wants us to serve our enemy in some way, then that's what we want. Prayer is the aligning of our wills with God's; when we pray for our enemies, we need to wrestle through our emotions until we truly want God's best in their lives.

Praying for our enemies is not a natural response to their mistreatment. But we remember that we were once enemies of God ourselves, and we are now His children. We can now intercede for others who are still far off ([Colossians 1:21](#))

And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled.

In doing so, we keep our own hearts free from [bitterness](#) ([Hebrews 12:15](#)).

Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

In praying for our enemies, we become more like Christ, and we keep ourselves in harmony with God's will, which is how every human being was designed to live."

Now let's think about Saul of Tarsus for a moment as he is the focus of this Chapter. A believer was told to go to likely the most distrusted and perhaps disliked man in Israel at the time by Believers. He was arresting them, incarcerating them or allowing them to be killed and holding the cloaks of those doing the killing.

Do you suppose there was any animosity toward Saul of Tarsus by the Believers? But what did Jesus ask of Ananias? What did Ananias do? Oh, Ananias clarified with Jesus who He was talking about but once clarified Ananias did what all of us should do.

First the clarification, Ananias making sure he heard correctly what God was saying.

13Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: 14And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

God confirms his previous direction to Ananias in vs 15 and 16, then nothing left to be gotten done.

17And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, 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.

Perhaps we are only to pray for our enemies when we get that direction directly from Jesus?

When you were a heathen, destined for hell for eternity, do you suppose that someone prayed for you to have your eyes opened? That is all Jesus is asking of us to do, pray for our enemies, it can be hard because we want to see vengeance. Remember James and John:

Luke 9: [51](#)And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem, [52](#)And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him. [53](#)And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. [54](#)And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? [55](#)But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. [56](#)For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village. (emphasis mine)

John the Apostle that is known as the “love apostle”, his ministry to the world was to spread love through Christ Jesus. It is reported from historical accounts that when John was quite old, he would agree to come to some church in Asia to speak. When people heard that the Apostle John was coming, they would come from miles to hear him. It was said that he would often arrive to a packed house. Enter in and say, “Love one another” and turn

around and leave. The same guy that wanted to call fire down from heaven to destroy those who had rejected Christ. The power of God in a willing vessel.

Oh, what a powerful work the Holy Spirit will do in our lives if we will just let Him.

22But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

This verse seems to be missing a definite article “the” as in “proving that this is THE very Christ”. According to commentaries it is what is called an appellative.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/appellative>

“Etymology

Middle English appellatyf, borrowed from Latin appellātīvus, from appellātus, past participle of appellāre “to speak to, address, call upon, name” + -īvus -ive — more at appeal”

If you’re like me that did not clear that up very much. I’ll just nod my head like I understood what I just said.

What we can understand that when there is such a dynamic change in a life that it “confounded” those who knew you, it is a

change indeed. An empty vessel can be filled with anything. What do you want your empty vessel to be filled with, because even though filled with the Holy Spirit your potential is empty every morning when you get up and prepare for the day. Filled with the Holy Spirit potential or with anger and animosity and revenge?

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Are you grumpy when you get up? Don't be, looked at the potential for this new day that God has blessed you with as another opportunity to show HIM how much you love HIM.

Saul Escapes from Damascus

[\(1 Samuel 19:11-24\)](#)

23And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

Not sure what the number is of "many days" but lets agree that is more than two and less than a year. Regardless it was of sufficient number that the previous cohorts of Saul of Tarsus had seen enough of their fellow hunter and decided to terminate their buddy.

24But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. 25Then the disciples took him by night, and let *him* down by the wall in a basket.

Well, the former friends turned into enemies and old enemies turned into friends. The very Jews that were to help Saul bring the Christians to justice were now intent on killing him. The very Christians whom Saul was going to imprison or kill are now intent on saving him. But the power of God.

An additional challenge Saul had was that he loved the Jews and wanted to reach them about Christ. Is that what God ultimately had Saul do?

What could possibly get Saul's attention off the Jews and onto the Gentiles?

Saul in Jerusalem

26And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

This visit is also accounted for by Paul in Galatians 1. It was about 3 years after Paul's conversion that he went to Jerusalem to meet with the Apostles. Even after 3 years the Apostles were not willing to meet with him other than Peter.

The term “assayed” in Strong’s Concordance KJV Lexicon means:

“peirao pi-rah'-o: to test (subjectively), i.e. (reflexively) to attempt -- assay.”

I think it means that when Saul came to Jerusalem, he knew the Apostles would be skeptical as they had seen or knew of his association with the killing of Stephen, one of the 7 chosen to help the Apostles. So, Saul/Paul, tries to associate with the Apostles but they were in the flesh afraid of him.

27But Barnabas took him, and brought *him* to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

How do we know how this all came about. The Apostles don’t want anything to do with Saul; except Barnabas is more than willing to introduce him?

It is believed by many commentators the Barnabas was acquainted with Saul years before in Tarsus. The connection was due to the work Paul had done in Syria and Cilicia. Barnabas was raised in that region and most commentators believe they were acquainted in their youth. Paul and Barnabas also worked together in this region in Paul’s first missionary journey there.

This is Paul's writing on his going to Jerusalem 3 years after his conversion.

*Galatians 1: **18**Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days. **19**But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother. **20**Now the things which I write unto you, behold, before God, I lie not. **21**Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia; **22**And was unknown by face unto the churches of Judaea which were in Christ: **23**But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once he destroyed. **24**And they glorified God in me.*

28And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem. **29**And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

These Grecians were the Hellenist Jews, those that were Jewish but spoke in Greek and were well acquainted with Greek culture.

30Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

Paul was eventually embraced by the brethren in Judea and for his protection they helped move him from the threat of the Hellenist Jews.

31Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Luke gives the image of the Church as having a moment to rest on its arduous journey. It's likened to climbing a hill, stopping for a moment, turning to take in the view before continuing the climb. The Church had been under constant attack and now was in a moment of respite in the three major areas of Judaea, Galilee and Samaria. During this rest we are told that they were "edified". Meaning to grow what Paul would say was on a strong foundation and structure. The Church still in its infancy was starting to get its legs, walking in the "fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost." In doing so it was growing as God intended it to grow.

Peter Heals Aeneas

32And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all quarters, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda. 33And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy. 34And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately. 35And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

There is a good deal to learn from commentators about his area of Lydda, which was known in the Old Testament as Ludd, spelled LOD in the Old Testament. It was burned when Jerusalem was destroyed lying in the plain of Sharon only one day's journey out of Jerusalem. It had an established Church that credit is given to Phillip as its founder. As Peter was passing though according

to Luke, he found this man who had been paralyzed for 8 years with Palsy. Peter simply did what he was told to do by God and presented this man with the offer of healing. The man took the offer and was healed. Period.

Peter Raises Dorcas from the Dead

36Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. **37**And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber. **38**And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring *him* that he would not delay to come to them. **39**Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them. **40**But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning *him* to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. **41**And he gave her *his* hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. **42**And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord. **43**And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

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