

# Saul, Saul and Acts

Exploring who, where and when in ACTS

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- Where did Saul go?
- Whom did he meet?
- How long was he there?
- What did he say or preach?

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Explore some (not all) of his journeys

## My Viewpoint

1. Gospel of Grace was preached. (How? And Where?)
2. There were disputes all along the way (a hint ?)
3. Everything is up for discussion as we explore

# Saul, Saul and Acts

## Journeys:

- Damascus
- Jerusalem (at least 5 times)
- Tarsus
- Antioch
- Galatia
- Macedonia (Philippi, Thessalonika, Berea)
- Achaia (Athens, Corinth)
- Rome



A Map of Mediterranean





A Map of Mediterranean





A Map of Mediterranean





A Map of Mediterranean





MAP G Second Apostolic Journey: Acts 15:36-18:22





# Damascus (Acts 9:1-25)

- Where did Saul go?
  - To Damascus with some fellow persecutors and stayed at Judas's house
- Whom did he meet?
  - Jesus (Acts 9:4-6)
  - Ananias , a certain disciple of the Lord Jesus (v.17) at Damascus
    - (refers to “saints” and “all that call on thy name”)
  - The disciples at Damascus (v.19)
- How long was he there?
  - “certain days with ...” v. 19
  - After that ... many days were fulfilled ... (v. 23) - was this after Arabia? Gal 1:17
  - 3 years since conversion: Gal 1:18, 2 Cor 11:32-33
  - “Jews took counsel to kill him” v.23
- **What did he say or preach?**



# Damascus (Acts 9:1-25)

## ➤ What did he say or preach?

➤ v. 20: “And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.”

➤ v.22: “... confounded the Jews ..., proving that this is very Christ.”

## ➤ Questions:

➤ Was “Saul increased the more in strength” by his travel to Arabia (Gal 1:17)?

➤ Do you think that there must have been more than “very Christ” in his message in the synagogues (more than one) for the Jews to get violent?

➤ There seem to be 2 groups in view in verses 23-25: Jews and disciples. What was their relationship with each other? Co-existence or uneasy?

➤ WE will see more content as we progress into ACTS



# Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-31)

- Where did Saul go?
  - To Jerusalem
- Whom did he meet?
  - **Not** the disciples afraid of the disciple, Saul (v 26)
  - Barnabas , a Levite from Cyprus (Acts 4:36-37) v 27
  - Brought to the apostles (v 27) and was with the apostles coming in and going out (v 28)
  - Grecians, whom he must have offended (Why? By what he did and what he said?)
- How long was he there?
  - Was he there 15 days and just stayed with Peter and James the Lord's brother (Gal 1:18-19)?
  - Or was this some other time?
  - He then went to Caesarea (the coasts) Acts 26:20
  - and back to Tarsus (Acts 9:30) and there was peace v. 31 in all the churches in Judea, Samaria and Galilee and they (kingdom believers) grew and multiplied
- **What did he say or preach?**

# Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-31)

## ➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- Barnabas related Saul's conversion on the road to Damascus v.27
- Saul "spoke boldly in the name of Jesus"
- Acts 22:17-21 ... Saul thought his testimony would sway the listeners
- Acts 26:20-21

## ➤ **Questions:**

- Was his conversion not genuine? Three years later his persecutors would be "angry" at Saul
- He proved Jesus was the Messiah by revelation, experience and scripture?
- Why did the subject of Gentiles – the mere mention of Gentiles – inspire killing Saul?



# Tarsus (Acts 9:30,11:25)

- Where did Saul go?
  - To Tarsus via Caesarea
- Whom did he meet?
  - It does not say: presumably disciples like Philip and the church at Caesarea
  - It does not say: presumably his family and kin in Tarsus
  - Barnabas just went to Tarsus to bring back Saul to Antioch
- How long was he there?
  - It does not say
  - 3-4 years? Till 41 BC? Till the end of the reign of evil Caligula?
  - Till 7 years since the stoning of Stephen?
  - It does not say
  - Till Antioch in Syria became a thriving centre of faith (outside of the land of Israel) – ACTS 11:22
- **What did he say or preach? It does not say.**

# Antioch (Acts 11:26-30)

- Where did Saul go?
  - To Antioch in Syria
- Whom did he meet? v. 26, 27
  - Barnabas
  - The church
  - Much people
  - Disciples
  - Christians
  - Prophets from Jerusalem
- **How long was he there?**
  - A whole year
- **What did he say or preach?**



# Antioch (Acts 11:26-30)

## ➤ What did he say or preach?

- No details
- They assembled and taught for a whole year  
(We know Saul had been called to the Gentiles)
- Disciples had to help the poor saints in Judea v. 29
- Elders were running Jerusalem (not the apostles) v. 30

## ➤ Questions:

- Were they readying to get a message to the Gentiles?
- Did they know that God would not provide to the saints anymore as expected before the change in dispensation: after persecution arising from the stoning of Stephen?
- Barnabas and Saul were a team – Barnabas was the rep from Jerusalem church
- John-Mark joined the team from Jerusalem

# Salamis to Paphos, Cyprus (Acts 13:1-13)

## ➤ Where did Saul go?

- Saul **who is also called Paul** travelled with Barnabas (they were both a prophet and a teacher) and John-Mark (their minister) to CYPRUS
- The whole of the island: from Salamis to Paphos (West to East)





# Salamis to Paphos, Cyprus (Acts 13:1-13)

- Where did Saul go?
  - Saul who is also called Paul travelled with Barnabas (they were both a prophet and a teacher) and John-Mark (their minister) to CYPRUS
  - The whole of the island: from Salamis to Paphos (West to East)
- Whom did he meet?
  - Those in the synagogues of the Jews
  - Bar-Jesus, a certain sorcerer, a Jew, a false prophet
  - Sergius Paulus, a prudent man, a Gentile
- How long was he there?
  - Does not say
- **What did he say or preach?**

# Salamis & Paphos, Cyprus (Acts 13:1-13)

## ➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- Separated for the work of the Holy Ghost v.2
  - Preached the “word of God” in the synagogues of the Jews v.3
  - Word of God v.7 equated to “the faith” in v. 8
  - The right ways of the Lord v. 10
  - The doctrine of the Lord v. 12
  - No specifics yet except the 1<sup>st</sup> event reported is:
    - “Blindness on the Jew for a season” v.11
    - Salvation of a Gentile v.12
  - John, their minister (v.5), abandoned the mission and departed for Jerusalem v.13
- 
- Why did John Mark depart?
  - Saul is also called Paul – he is both disciple and apostle to Gentiles – by the Holy Ghost v.9
    - Saul is saved under the kingdom gospel Acts 22:16
    - Paul is the first member of the Body of Christ 1 Tim 1:16
  - Did they teach what was implied (“hereafter”) by 1 Tim 1:16 at Antioch for the year? Acts 11:26



# Antioch , Pisidia (Acts 13:14-52)

- Where did Paul go?
  - Paul travelled with Barnabas
  - Antioch is deep in GALATIAN Province
- Whom did he meet?
  - Those in the synagogue, including the rulers (v.15):
    - Men of Israel v.16
    - Ye that fear God v.16
  - Outside of synagogue
    - The Gentiles v. 42, 48
    - Many of the Jews and religious proselytes v.43
    - The whole city v.44
    - But ... the Jews v.45, 50
    - Those “ordained to eternal life” v. 48
    - Devout and honourable women v. 50
    - Chief men of the city v. 50
- How long was he there?
  - 2 sabbaths maybe v. 44
- **What did he say or preach?**

# Antioch , Pisidia (Acts 13:14-52)

## ➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- In the synagogue, he addressed Jew and Gentile: v. 16
- Recounted the acts of God to Israel and Old Testament promises vss. 17-22 (Moses, David)
- Reminded them of John the Baptist's specific ministry vss 24-25
- Identified Jesus as Israel's promised Saviour, as did John, v 23
- He then preached the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus to Jew and God-fearers : v 26-31
- Sounds a little like Peter in Acts 2:39 in vss 32-38
- Justification by faith alone in verse 39: sounds like Rom 3:20, Gal 3:24, Peter in Acts 15:10,11
- Continue in the Grace of God v 43 – said to Jews
- Separated from "Jews in the synagogue" as they rejected Paul and Barnabas' teaching v.48
- Therefore, followers of the grace of God had to meet separately from the Jews



# Antioch , Pisidia (Acts 13:14-52)

- Paul took the “truth” from the beginning – Moses through David and John to Jesus
- Paul included the Gentiles (Men of Israel and Ye that fear God v.16)
- The Word of the Lord spread throughout the region (i.e., Galatia) ... “not done in in a corner” (Acts 26:26)
- Definite mix of believing Jews and Gentiles in Galatia
- QUESTION:
- What does “as many as were ordained to eternal life believed” signify?

## MAP E

### First Apostolic Journey (Acts 13:1-14:28)

- Sea journey Antioch's port of Seleucia to eastern port on isle of Cyprus (Salamis)
- Go east to West and 1<sup>st</sup> Gentile convert documented as a Jew is blinded
- Sail to Paphos :Mark returns to Jerusalem: Why?
- Paphos to Asia Minor, up to Antioch (of Pisidia) and down to Derbe (going towards Tarsus) and back





# Iconium(Acts 14:1-5)

- Where did Paul go?
  - Paul travelled with Barnabas to Iconium in GALATIA
- Whom did he meet?
  - In the synagogue v.1
    - Jews and Greeks who believed v.1
  - Unbelieving Jews and Gentiles (whose minds were “evil affected against the brethren”) v.2
  - Multitude of the city
- How long was he there?
  - Long time v. 3
  - Time enough to speak, give testimony and do miracles
  - Time enough to cause an assault and for opposition to plot to stone them v.5
- **What did he say or preach?**
  - Spoke ‘Boldly in the Lord’
  - Gave testimony ... “the word of his grace”
  - Granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands”

# Lystra-Derbe-Lystra-Iconium-Antioch (Acts 14:6-23)

## ➤ Where did Paul go?

- Paul travelled with Barnabas throughout Galatia
- From Iconium to Lystra, then to Derbe and then turned around and returned to Antioch in Syria
- From Derbe to Lystra, Iconium, Antioch in Pisidia ... to Antioch, Syria)

## ➤ Whom did he meet?

### ➤ LYSTRA:

- A certain man: a cripple who never walked (whom Paul healed)
- “the people” listening to Paul and Barnabas
- the priest of Jupiter
- Certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium who stoned Paul (2 Cor 11:25 and lived to tell)

### ➤ DERBE:

- The city v.21

### ➤ LYSTRA-Iconium-Antioch in Pisidia

- The disciples

## ➤ **How long was he there?**

- Does not say – a few days/weeks?: long enough to be worshipped as gods, to get stoned, to travel and to teach many v.21

# Lystra-Derbe-Lystra-Iconium-Antioch (Acts 14:6-25)

## ➤ **What did he say or preach?**

- They preached the gospel (v.7 Lystra, v21 Derbe)
- Turn from these vanities (Greek gods) and unto the living God who created all things and good v.15-17
- Paul not fearful to return (2 Cor 12:1-arising from the dead helps) v.21-22
  - Confirmed the souls of the disciples – salvation by grace through faith
  - Continue in the faith
  - Through much tribulation, enter into the Kingdom of God
- Ordained elders in every church (more than one) v23
- Preached the word in PERGA v25

➤ **QUESTION:** Was there a mix of kingdom believers and grace believers, subtly in view in v21-22?

## ➤ **OF NOTE:**

1. Timothy comes from this region on Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> journey
2. After 2nd visit, Acts 16:6, the Galatians were "so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ" (Gal 1:6)



# Conclusion of 1<sup>st</sup> Apostolic Journey (Acts 14:26-28)

- Holy Ghost called Saul & Barnabas to **the work** (Acts 13:2)
- Holy Ghost sent them forth (Acts 13:4)
- They were recommended to the grace of God for the work (Acts 14:26)
- Saul was filled by the Holy Ghost in Cyprus (Acts 13:9) to cause blindness on a Jew
- After persecution in Antioch, Pisidia (Acts 13:52), they were filled with joy and the Holy Ghost
- They established churches in Galatia, believers in Cyprus
- They fulfilled the work! (Acts 14:26)
  
- What was the work? God “had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles” (Acts 14:27)  
Through Israel’s program?  
NO.  
**Through Paul’s Gospel of Grace**