

<p style="text-align: center;">PAUL, THE APOSTLE "An Enemy of God" - Acts 9:4b (NLT)</p>

[Jesus said], "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" Acts 9:4b (NLT)

I. Overview of Paul

II. Introducing Saul

The Jewish leaders were infuriated by Stephen's accusation, and they shook their fists at him in rage. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed steadily into heaven and saw the glory of God, and he saw Jesus standing in the place of honor at God's right hand. And he told them, "Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing in the place of honor at God's right hand!" Then they put their hands over their ears and began shouting. They rushed at him and dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. **His accusers took off their coats and laid them at the feet of a young man named Saul.** As they stoned him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Acts 7:54-59 (NLT)

- Saul's Name
- Saul's Town – Acts 21:39 *sel* (NIV)
- Saul's Stellar Jewish Pedigree – Philippians 3:5-6 (NLT)
- Saul's Jewish Family and the Privileges – Acts 22:25-29 (NLT)
- Saul's Early Faith Development
- Saul's Training under Gamaliel – Acts 22:3 *sel* (NIV)
- Driven to be the best Pharisee

III. Saul the Enemy

The Strain of Christianity on the Jews – Acts 5:40-41 (NIV, NLT)

The Stoning of Stephen – Acts 8:1 (NLT)

Paul and the Leading Jewish Leader's Hate and Hardline Response – Acts 22:4 (AMP)

Paul Goal Takes It on the Road – Acts 9:1-2 (NLT)

IV. Saul to Paul, a Testament to God's Wisdom & Grace

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. Romans 8:28 (NLT)

- God Moves Paul from Scum to the Scandal of God's Grace – 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 *sel* (NLT)
- Religiosity into a Vibrant, Life-Giving Relationship with Jesus – 2 Timothy 3:5 (NLT)
- Saul's Bold Ambition – Philippians 3:12-14 *sel* (NIV)
- Saul's Biblical and Practical Wisdom and Knowledge