

(Saul) Paul and the Beginning

Saul was a Pharisee by training under the guidance of his teacher Gamaliel. Saul came from Tarsus and was extremely knowledgeable in the old testament scriptures. He knew about the coming Messiah and he did not believe that Jesus was the promised one. When Stephen professed Jesus as the Christ, Saul was there to oversee the stoning of Stephen.

Saul was traveling along the road to Damascus to seek out any believers in Jesus as the Christ. He was seeking people who belonged to "The Way" which was the name of the followers of Jesus. A monstrous flash of light from heaven was all around him and he fell to the ground. A voice from heaven pounded through the air and the voice said, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Saul said, "Who are you?" "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. Now get up and go into the city and you will be told what you must do."

Paul was blind and had scales on his eyes. In Damascus there was a disciple whom Jesus spoke to named Ananias. The Lord told him to go and find Saul and touch him and the scales would fall from his eyes. He then gave him directions on the fact that Saul was God's chosen one to take the gospel to the gentiles and their kings and the people of Israel. Ananias did as he was told.

The best part is that Saul got up and was immediately baptized. He also began preaching the gospel in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

Saul met with the leaders of the Church and then traveled to Antioch in Syria. There the followers of "The Way" were first called Christians.

Scripture:

Acts 9: 1 – 31 Read this with your parents. What an amazing story!

Questions:

1. Was Saul called Paul right away?
2. Did Saul believe in Jesus as the Christ when he first heard about Him?
3. Why did Saul persecute Jesus and His followers?
4. What covered Saul's eyes for three days?

Nest Steps: Watch the professional video and you will know more about (Saul) Paul.