

Chosen Instrument

¹ Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ AS HE NEARED Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

Acts 9:1-6 (NIV)

¹⁶‘Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. ¹⁷I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them ¹⁸to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’

Acts 26:16-18 (NIV)

⁷The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹For THREE DAYS he was BLIND, and did not eat or drink anything. ¹⁰In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord,” he answered. ¹¹The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹²In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”

Acts 9:7-15 (NIV)

¹³“Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument...

Acts 9:7-15 (NIV)

¹Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in **Christ Jesus**,² because through **Christ Jesus** the LAW of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the LAW of sin and death.

Romans 8:1-2 (NIV)

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the LAW.

1 Corinthians 15:56 (NIV)

⁶ He (**Jesus**) has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant. This is a covenant not of written laws, but of the Spirit. The old written covenant ends in death; but under the new covenant, the Spirit gives life.

2 Corinthians 3:6 (NLT)

⁴You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from **Christ**; you have fallen away from grace.

Galatians 5:4 (NIV)

⁴ Because of his great love, God...⁵ made us alive with **Christ** even when we were dead in our transgressions...⁸ For it is **BY GRACE** you have been saved through faith.

Ephesians 2:4-5,8

⁹ ...not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law,
but that which is through faith in **Christ**...

Philippians 3:9-10 (NIV)

¹⁴ ...having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; **he** has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

Colossians 2:14 (NIV)

⁹...We have been appointed to receive salvation through our Lord
Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 5:9

¹⁶ ...who loved us and by his grace gave us hope.

2 Thessalonians 2:16

⁹ ...This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

2 Timothy 1:9 (NIV)

⁵ ...He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through **Jesus Christ our Savior**, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Titus 3:5-7 (NIV)

²⁵The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

Philemon 1:25 (NIV)

¹⁹ ...The law made nothing perfect, and a better hope is introduced...
Jesus is the better covenant.

Hebrews 7:19, 22 (NIV)