

## Lessons from the Lives of the Apostles - Study 1 of 5

### Some incidents in the Life of Paul



Acts 9:24,25

1. Paul was born in Tarsus, an Israelite and a Roman citizen. Trained as a Pharisee by Gamaliel. (Acts 22:3,27 26:5 Rom 11:1 Phil 3:5-6 Gal 1:14 His background was quite different than the other apostles.

**How did Paul's background influence him? R4355:2 R5553:1**  
**What should be our attitude toward our background and each others background? I Cor 1:26-29 Gal 3:28 2Cor 5:16-17 D476:3**

2. Paul Initially persecuted the Christians. (Acts 7:58 8:1 22:4 26:9-11 Gal 1:13 Phil 3:6 (note: Gamaliel's attitude displayed in Acts 5:33-39)

**How did Paul's background of persecuting Christians temper him? I Cor 15:9**  
**Acts 23:1 What role can failures and errors we make contribute to our character development? Persevere-Phil 3:14, asking for help-Gal 6:2 Correction-Heb12:11**  
**Show depth of Grace-Psa 103:12 Connect more to our burden bearer-Matt 11:28**  
**Weakness & strength-2 Cor 12:9,10 R1884 Pressing Toward the Mark**

3. Paul was converted and commissioned on the way to Damascus. (Acts 9:1-20 Acts 22:6-16 26:12-18 Gal 1:15-16) The other Apostles had no similar experience.

**Why was such a dramatic and direct experience needed for Paul?**  
**Think about your decision to consecrate, was there a trigger?**  
**R4355 Why Persecutest Thou Me**

4. An event during Paul's 1st missionary Journey. Acts 13:4-14:26.

Note especially Acts 14:8-20 Paul rent his clothes from the exaltation received (14:14-15) and later was stoned (14:19). **How did Paul deal with those extremes? Consider verse 14:22 How can we manage the extremes in our life? Phil 4:5**  
**R3011 Enduring Hardness as Good Soldiers**

5. With Barnabas, Paul spends "no little time" in Antioch (Acts 14:28; Gal 2:11-14) Paul confronts Peter to his face. 2 Peter 3:15 Beginning of Paul's argument Gal 2:15-21

**Was it necessary for Paul to confront Peter? Acts 10:34**  
**Should we ever correct our brethren? Matt 18:15**  
**R4510 The New Covenant in the Book of Hebrews**

Suggested additional reference: The 12 Apostles of the Lamb booklet