

Acts 9:10-31

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 3-8-17

III. Foundations for World Mission (6:8-12:24)

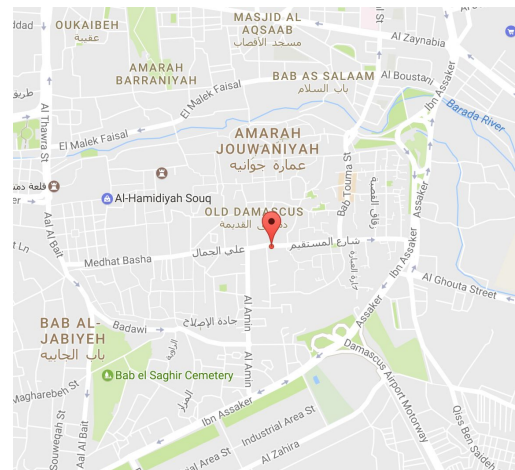
- A. Stephen the martyr (6:8-7:60)
- B. Philip the evangelist (8:1-40)
- C. The conversion of Saul (9:1-31)**
- D. The conversion of Cornelius (9:32-11:18)
- E. Expansion and opposition (11:19-12:24)

Saul and Ananias: His Welcome Into the Church - 9:10-25

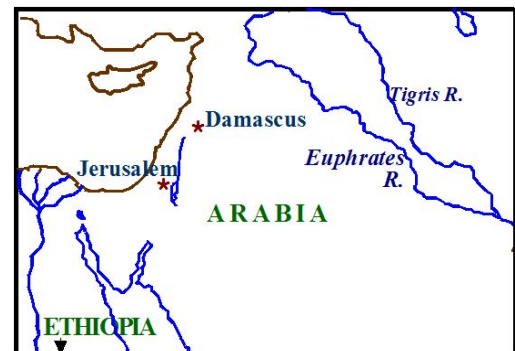
Movement from the _____ of Saul's conversion to its _____
Transformation of attitude and character, and of all his _____

- A new reverence for _____
 - V. 11 - "praying," no food or drink for 3 days (v. 9)
 - From Luke 18 to Rom. 8:15-16!
 - Genuine conversion produces a new awareness of the _____ of God
 - "Arise, My Soul, Arise:
*My God is reconciled;
his pard'ning voice I hear;
he owns me for his child,
I can no longer fear;
with confidence I now draw nigh,
with confidence I now draw nigh,
and "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.*

- A new relationship to the _____
 - Ananias - William Barclay: calls him "one of the forgotten heroes of the Christian church."
 - Reluctance and obedience
 - V. 17 - went to the street called Straight
 - Laid his hands on Saul
 - Calls him "_____"
 - V. 18-19a - scales, baptism, food - concern for the whole person



- A new relationship to the "_____"
 - V. 19b ff. - preaching in the synagogues
 - Vv. 20-21 - "amazed" and "confounded"
 - V. 23 - plot to kill him, after "many days had elapsed"
 - _____ transpired between Acts 9:22 and 23 (cf. Galatians 1:15-18)



- Arabia? Cf. Gal. 1:11-12; Eph. 3:3-6; Rom. 16:25
- _____ by the HS AND _____!
- Vv. 23-25 - "his disciples"
 - Our model: saved > transformed > called/empowered > growth > _____

Saul and Barnabas in Jerusalem - Acts 9:26-31

Experience in Jerusalem similar to Damascus

Disciples afraid

Who vouched for Saul? _____

- Vv. 19 & 26 - Saul is with the disciples
 - True conversion always results in Christian _____
 - Not only should new converts join the Christian community, the Christian community must welcome new converts.
 - Where are Ananiases and Barnabases today?!

 - Saul's new witness to the _____
 - _____ - _____ (vv. 20, 22)
 - Argued from both the OT and his own _____
 - Testimony _____ autobiography
 - Holy Spirit _____ (vv. 17, 22)
 - The Spirit always bears witness to Christ
 - _____ (vv. 27-29)
 - _____
 - Vv. 23-24 - life in danger in Damascus
 - V. 29 - Hellenistic Jews want to kill him
 - 22:17-18 - urged to leave Jerusalem for fear he might be killed.
 - V. 30 - brothers brought him "down" to Caesarea and then on to Tarsus
 - Suffering continues:
 - Stoned in Lystra and left for dead
 - Beaten and imprisoned in Philippi
 - Center of a public riot in Ephesus
 - Arrested and imprisoned in Jerusalem
 - Shipwrecked in the Mediterranean
 - Held custody and martyred in Rome
 - Martyr comes from *martys*, which means "_____."
- Bonhoeffer: "Suffering, then, is the badge of true discipleship."