

Chapter 9

“The Conversion of Paul”

Summary

- Between 34 and 36 A.D.
- Paul is converted while traveling to Damascus to persecute Christians
- Peter heals Æneas and Tabitha

Outline

- I. The Conversion of Paul
 - A. The Damascus Road
 1. Saul’s mission - vs. 1-2
 2. The great light - vs. 3
 3. The conversation with Christ - vs. 4-6
 4. His dumbfounded companions - vs. 7
 5. Saul’s condition - vs. 8-9
 - B. Ananias
 1. God sends Ananias to Saul - vs. 10-12
 2. Ananias protests - vs. 13-14
 3. God’s plan for Saul - vs. 15-16
 4. The visit to Saul - vs. 17-18
 - C. Saul the Christian
 1. Sight restored and baptized - vs. 19
 2. Preaches Christ - vs. 20
 3. The people are amazed - vs. 21
 4. The power of his preaching - vs. 22
 - D. Escape from Damascus
 1. The plot to kill Saul - vs. 23-24
 2. Let over wall in basket - vs. 25
 - E. Paul in Jerusalem
 1. Barnabas helps Saul gain entrance into the church - vs. 26-27
 2. Paul’s status and work in Jerusalem - vs. 28-29
 3. Paul’s escape to Tarsus - vs. 30
 4. State of the churches at the time - vs. 31
- II. The Ministry of Peter
 - A. Peter Heals Æneas
 1. Peter travels around - vs. 32
 2. Finds and heals Æneas - vs. 33-34
 3. Many believe because of it - vs. 35
 - B. Peter Heals Tabitha
 1. The godly Tabitha dies - vs. 36-37
 2. They send for Peter - vs. 38-39
 3. Peter heals Tabitha - vs. 40-41
 4. Many believe because of it - vs. 42
 5. Peter stays in Joppa with Simon the tanner - vs. 43

Notes on Chapter 9

Notes on Places

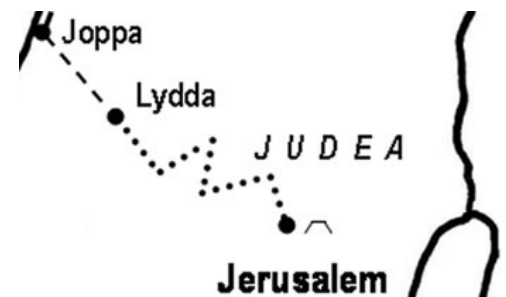
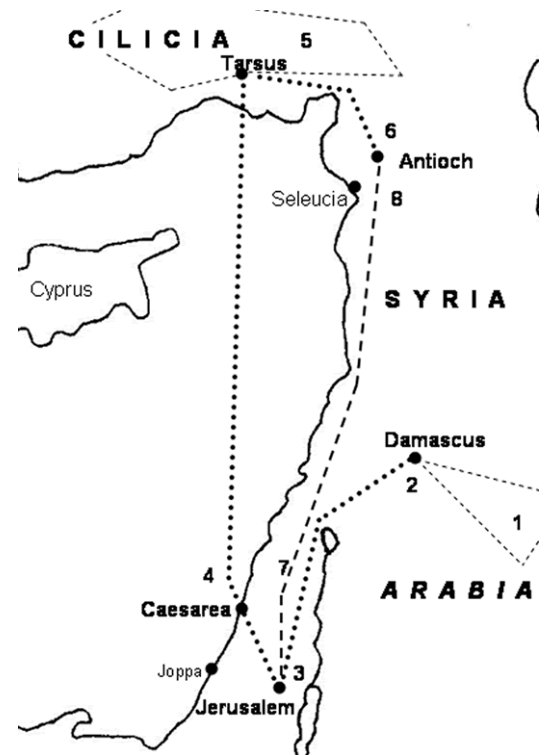
- Damascus
 - Considered to be the oldest continually inhabited city in the world
 - At this time was under Nabatean (kingdom southwest of Israel) control
 - Was on major trade route
 - “Straight Street” runs east-to-west through center of town
- Lydda
 - About 30 miles west of Jerusalem
 - Also known as Lod
 - After the failed Jewish Revolt in AD 66-70 it became a center for Jewish scholars
 - Saron (vs. 36) is the Sharon Plain on which Lydda is located
- Joppa
 - Also known as Jaffa
 - Jewish port city, maybe one of the oldest port cities in the world
 - About 40 west of Jerusalem, 10 miles from Lydda

Notes on Paul’s Early Life

- Born around AD 5 in Tarsus (modern Turkey)
- “of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee” - Philippians 3:5
- Held Roman citizenship - Acts 25:11
- *Saul* is his Hebrew name, *Paul* (or *Paulus*) is probably part of his legal Roman name
- Raised in Jerusalem - Acts 26:4
- Student of Gamaliel (see Acts 5:34-39)- Acts 22:3
- He was an up-and-comer in Judaism - Galatians 1:14
- Zealously persecuted the church - Galatians 1:13

Other Notes

- vs. 5 - “kick against the pricks” pictures an ox kicking against an “ox goad”
- vs. 23 - Paul’s trip to Arabia perhaps happens before this - Galatians 1:17
- vs. 29 - Grecians are Jews from outside Judea
- vs. 36 - *Tabitha* (Aramaic) and *Dorcas* (Greek) mean “gazelle”



Maps source (again) - <http://www.generationword.com/notes/bible-information/acts-maps.html>