

34 AD – Paul's conversion

35-45 AD – Paul's "silent years" in Arabia and Tarsus

46-48 AD – First missionary journey

49-50 AD – Paul attends Jerusalem Council

50 AD *Galatians*

50-52 AD – Second missionary journey

51-52 AD *1 & 2 Thessalonians*

53-58 AD – Third missionary journey

56 AD *1 & 2 Corinthians*

57 AD *Romans*

58-60 AD – Paul's arrest, imprisonment, & journey to Rome

60 AD *Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon*

62-67 AD – Paul's trip to Spain

63 AD *1 Timothy*

64 AD *Titus*

67 AD *2 Timothy*

67 AD – Paul executed in Rome by Nero



Acts 9:1-2

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.

- Sometimes a devotion to *religion* can lead you to miss Jesus.

Acts 9:3-6

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."

- Often God has to stand in the way to show you the way.

"We call this event a conversion, but it was more like a volcanic eruption, thunderstorm and tidal wave all coming together. If the death and resurrection of Jesus is the hinge on which the great door of history swung open at last, the conversion of Saul of Tarsus was the moment when all the ancient promises of God gathered around themselves, rolled themselves up into a ball, and came hurtling through that open door and out into the wide world beyond."

– N.T Wright



Perseverance only makes sense when you're headed in the right direction.

Acts 9:7-16

7 The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. 8 Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. 9 For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything. 10 In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered. 11 The 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. 12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight." 13 "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your saints in Jerusalem. 14 And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name." 15 But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

➤ **Jesus sees beyond who you've been to who you will become.**