New Life, New Mission

Sermon Outline: Sunday, March 3rd, 2024

Text

Acts 9:20-31

I. Sudden Change (verses 20-25)

"Isn't this the man... who..."

A. Saul immediately proclaimed Jesus as the Son of God In the O.T. the "Son of God" is a title attributed to:

- 1. The nation of Israel- Exodus 4:22 & Hosea 11:1
- 2. Israel's anointed King- 2 Samuel 7:14a & Psalm 89:26
- 3. The Messiah- Psalm 2:7

Jesus perfectly fulfills "Son of God" in all three ways

- B. Saul continued to prove Jesus as the Messiah
- C. Saul is persecuted for his message about Jesus

Apply — Has my life changed because of Jesus?

II. Ongoing, Gradual Change (verses 26-30)

Saul, like Moses needed to mature into his calling

- A. The disciple's reluctance to accept Saul
- B. From Damascus, to Arabia, to Damascus, to Jerusalem
- C. Barnabas' defense of Saul
 - 1. He had seen Jesus
 - 2. He had spoken to Jesus
 - 3. He had boldly witnessed for Jesus

Apply — Where can I be faithful in the small things?

III. No Change in Mission (verse 31)

Luke's progress report is good!

- A. The Church:
 - 1. Had peace and was strengthened

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- 2. Lived in the fear of the Lord and was encouraged by the Holy Spirit
- 3. Grew in number

IV. Final Application & Transition to Communion

A. Saul, reflecting on this season, writes...

"God set me apart from the womb and called me by His grace." —Galatians 1:15

- B. Saul was changed when He saw Jesus for who He is:
 - 1. Son of God- He is divine (verse 20)
 - 2. Messiah/Christ- He is Savior (verse 22)