

You Never Know

Acts 9:1-9

“You Never Know”

Acts 9:1-11 - 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. 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." 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." NIV

Some People Seem Unreachable.

"The witnesses [those who were stoning Stephen] laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul."

"But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house he dragged off men and women and put them in prison."

"breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples."

1 Timothy 1:12-13 - *I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service, 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;*

1 Timothy 1:12-13 (LBLA) — *12 Doy gracias a Cristo Jesús nuestro Señor, que me ha fortalecido, porque me tuvo por fiel, poniéndome en el ministerio; 13 aun habiendo sido yo antes blasfemo, perseguidor y agresor. Sin embargo, se me mostró misericordia porque lo hice por ignorancia en mi incredulidad.*

Acts 22:4 — "I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and putting both men and women into prisons,

Acts 22:4 (LBLA) — 4 Y perseguí este Camino hasta la muerte, encadenando y echando en cárceles tanto a hombres como a mujeres,

Acts 22:19 — ***"And I said, 'Lord, they themselves understand that in one synagogue after another I used to imprison and beat those who believed in You.***

Acts 22:19 (LBLA) — ***19 Y yo dije: «Señor, ellos saben bien que en una sinagoga tras otra, yo encarcelaba y azotaba a los que creían en ti.***

Acts 26:10 — "And this is just what I did in Jerusalem; not only did I lock up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, but also when they were being put to death I cast my vote against them.

Acts 26:10 (LBLA) — 10 Y esto es precisamente lo que hice en Jerusalén; no solo encerré en cárceles a muchos de los santos con la autoridad recibida de los principales sacerdotes, sino que también, cuando eran condenados a muerte, yo daba mi voto contra ellos.

1 Corinthians 15:9 — *For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.*

1 Corinthians 15:9 (LBLA) — *9 Porque yo soy el más insignificante de los apóstoles, que no soy digno de ser llamado apóstol, pues perseguí a la iglesia de Dios.*

Galatians 1:13 — *For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it;*

Galatians 1:13 (LBLA) — *13 Porque vosotros habéis oído acerca de mi antigua manera de vivir en el judaísmo, de cuán desmedidamente perseguía yo a la iglesia de Dios y trataba de destruirla,*

Philippians 3:6 — *as to
zeal, a persecutor of the
church...*

violent aggressor (hubristes)

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**"I give up!
Send me your
blasted magazine!"**

God Can and Wants to Reach Everyone

Phil 2:13 - *13 for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. NASU*

"As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

"Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."

***You never know who and
you never know how.***

"Get up." Obedience is Still Man's Choice

**"Go into
the city."**

Acts 9:6-9 - "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." 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. NIV

Colossians 4:2-4 (ESV)

2 Continue steadfastly in prayer,
being watchful in it with
thanksgiving. 3 At the same time,
pray also for us, that God may open
to us a door for the word, to declare
the mystery of Christ, on account of
which I am in prison— 4 that I may
make it clear, which is how I ought to
speak.

Matthew 9:37-38 - *Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. 38 "Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."* NASU

Matthew 9:37–38 (LBLA) — *37 Entonces dijo* a sus discípulos: La mies es mucha, pero los obreros pocos. 38 Por tanto, rogad al Señor de la mies que envíe obreros a su mies.*