

Total Life Transformation

Acts 9:20-25

PART THREE

Introduction

- 1) a thunderstorm outside Damascus
- 2) an epileptic seizure
- 3) psychogenic blindness as the result of repressed guilt

“you are being transformed into the same image” (2 Cor. 3:18) Gk verb a present passive indicative.

Total transformation is the same for all Christians:

complete and entire in terms of our *justification*; ongoing development in terms of *sanctification*.

It essential for churches to place equal importance on teaching orthodoxy *and* orthopraxy.

5 Definite Signs of a Truly Transformed Life

1. Daily, ongoing communion with God
2. An unquestioning and unfading desire to serve
3. Indwelt by and filled with the Holy Spirit
4. Love for fellow Christians

5. Unhesitating, unrestrained proclamation of Jesus Christ

This portion of the conversion narrative (vv20-25), validates the genuineness of Paul’s conversion.

“For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” v16

“immediately”

With his heart changed and his eyes opened to the truth, Paul did not hesitate to proclaim the truth about Jesus.

“synagogues”

“he proclaimed Jesus”

“He is the Son of God”

A declaration of the deity of Jesus Christ.

This is an incarnate title. This title is never used in the OT because He was not yet incarnate.

Luke 1:35

“My Servant” (Isaiah 42:1-4; cp Matthew 12:18-20).

Matthew 12:18

Those who are truly transformed are now the servants of Christ who have the indwelling Holy Spirit and therefore will proclaim His holy Name to those who are lost.

“*havoc*” Gk *portheo*; ‘destroy, waste’

Acts 26:10-11

“*raging fury*” a Gk word meaning, ‘to act as a maniac.’ ‘to be mad or furious with or against.’

Acts 8:3

This is Total Transformation:

Romans 1:11-12;

Romans 15:23;

Philippians 1:8;

Philippians 4:1;

1 Corinthians 16:7

1 Thessalonians 2:17-18

1 Thessalonians 3:6

1 Thessalonians 3:10

"As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy." 2 Timothy 1:4

Aretas IV Philopatrīs, King of the Nabateans (9 B.C. – A.D. 40)

Galatians 1:15-18

2 Corinthians 11:32-33

“the Jews plotted to kill him,” (v23).

“the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city...in order to seize [him]” (2 Corinthians 11:32).

“*his disciples*” v25 an indication that Paul’s gospel ministry in Damascus was fruitful.

“*basket*”

This had to be an extremely humbling experience for the mighty Saul of Tarsus.

“If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.” 2 Corinthians 11:30

Saul the religious pursuer and enforcer of the law, has now become Paul the persecuted witness and preacher for Jesus Christ.

Three Categories of Concern in a Crisis

- 1) Complaining
- 2) Complacent
- 3) Contentious

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