

Our Rescuer Named “Grace”

Acts 8:1, 9:1, 21, 22; 1 Corinthians 15:10

- I. “Saul was there giving approval to his death,” Acts 8:1.
- II. “Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the disciples,” Acts 9:1.
- III. Explaining Saul’s violence.
 - A. Hostility against God.
 1. From love to hostility, Genesis 3:8; Ephesians 2:16; Colossians 1:21.
 2. Hostility inherited, Genesis 4:3-5; Psalm 51:5; Romans 8:7.
 3. No hope for self-improvement, Psalm 14:2,3; Isaiah 53:6.
 - B. Inability to carry out God’s pleasure, Proverbs 20:9; Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:23.
- IV. “All those who heard him were astonished...,” Acts 9:21.
- V. “Saul...baffled the...unbelievers,” Acts 9:22.
- VI. Explaining Saul’s transformation, 1 Corinthians 15:10.
 - A. Grace replaces hostility against God with submission to God.
 1. By the grace of God, I am what I am.
 2. Acts 22:7, 8, 10; John 6:44, 65; Acts 16:14,18:27; Romans 5:5.
 - B. Grace imparts ability to carry out God’s pleasure,
 1. I worked...yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.
 2. Acts 22:10; Ph. 2:13; Ephesians 2:10; Isaiah 26:12.
- VII. When you feel overwhelmed by life’s demands, grace will rescue you, 2 Corinthians 12:9.

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