

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: All Things New

SERMON REFERENCE: Acts 9:17-22

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - i) Nature forms us; sin deforms us.
 - ii) Schools inform us; prisons reform us.
 - iii) But only Christ transforms us.
 - (1) In Christ, we become new.
- b) A Christian is not just someone who has become nice; he has become new.
 - i) He doesn't just turn over a new leaf; he receives new life.
 - ii) A Christian is not like a tadpole that has become a frog.
 - (1) A Christian has gone through a series of changes, but is the same creature.
 - (2) A Christian is more like a frog who has received the kiss of grace and become a prince or princess.
 - (a) We are changed radically and dramatically.
- c) Paul was saved; so saved, that he even changed his name.
 - i) His early name was Saul.
 - ii) He became Paul the greatest missionary, preacher, and evangelist the world has ever known.
 - (1) He was changed by the grace of God.
- d) What God did for Paul, He wants to do for you.
 - i) He can give you a brand-new life.
- e) Acts 9:1-16
 - i) Saul was a brilliant, well-trained Pharisee.
 - (1) He had deep emotions and rigid standards.
 - (2) He had his philosophy of life all worked out.
 - ii) Saul had a bitter hatred against Christ and the church.
 - (1) He persecuted the church and had the official sanction to do it.
 - (2) He had letters from the high priest to arrest Christians and put them in bondage.
 - (a) Many were put in prison, and some were killed for their faith.
 - iii) Saul was on the road to Damascus, and suddenly there was a blazing light.
 - (1) It was so bright that it blinded him.
 - iv) Then, the Lord Jesus spoke to Saul.
 - (1) He asked Saul why he was persecuting Him.
 - (2) He told Saul to go to a certain house on the street called Straight.
 - v) Saul went to this place and waited.
 - vi) The Lord came to Ananias and told him that He had a job for him to do.
 - (1) He had a message for Ananias to deliver to Saul.
- f) Acts 9:17-22
- g) Today's message will give us five marks of a man made new.

2) SAUL HAD A NEW LORD (ACTS 9:17)

- a) When Saul first met the Lord Jesus, he asked the two greatest questions that anyone could ever ask:

- i) “Who art thou, Lord?”
 - (1) Acts 9:5
 - ii) “Lord, what would You have me to do?”
 - (1) Acts 9:6
 - iii) It has been said that Paul spent the rest of his life finding the answer to those two questions.
 - b) Jesus had become his Lord.
 - i) A mark of a man made new is that he is under new management.
 - (1) He has a brand-new Lord.
 - ii) There is some teaching and preaching going on in the world where people say something like, “Now that you have accepted Christ as your Savior, why not make Him your Lord?”
 - (1) If He is not your Lord, then He is not your Savior.
 - (2) Salvation is not like a cafeteria line where you say that you will have some salvation today but no Lordship.
 - c) The Bible doesn’t put the emphasis upon receiving Christ as Savior; the Bible puts the emphasis upon making Jesus Lord.
 - i) When we make Jesus Christ Lord, He is our Savior.
 - ii) This does not mean that He doesn’t save.
 - (1) He does save.
 - (2) But while the Bible mentions Him as Savior 24 times, it mentions Him as Lord 433 times.
 - iii) When they spoke of the Lord Jesus, they called Him the Lord Jesus.
 - (1) No one is saved who has not made Jesus Lord.
 - (a) We cannot have what He gives (salvation) unless we receive who He is, and that is Lord.
 - iv) Romans 10:9
 - (1) This verse literally says in the Greek language, “*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth that Jesus is Lord.*”
 - v) If He is Lord of your life, then you have a right to believe that He is the Savior of your life.
 - d) Paul asked, “What would You have me to do, Lord?”
 - i) He was under new management.
 - (1) One of the marks of a life made new is a new Lord.
 - ii) Acts 9:6
- 3) PAUL HAD A NEW LIFE (ACTS 9:17-18)
- a) Psalm 27:1
 - b) When we receive the Lord, we receive a new life.
 - i) We are able to see things that we had never seen before.
 - c) In the physical realm, Saul was literally blinded, and he was supernaturally healed of blindness.
 - i) This is an illustration and an emphasis to the greater fact that Jesus is the light of the world, and “*Except a man be born again, he cannot see.*”

- (1) John 3:3
 - (2) Don't scold a blind man for not seeing; we will never argue anyone into being a Christian.
 - (a) There needs to be a miracle.
 - d) When a person comes to the Lord in surrender, God takes the scales from his eyes.
 - i) He sees things that he has never seen before.
 - ii) He understands things that he couldn't possibly understand apart from the Lord.
 - e) Paul was brilliant.
 - i) He had the equivalency of a double Ph.D.
 - ii) He knew many languages.
 - iii) He saturated himself in the Scriptures.
 - iv) But he didn't know Jesus.
 - f) When the scales fell from his eyes, he saw in the Bible things he had never seen before.
 - i) He took the Old Testament and went into the desert.
 - (1) When he came out, he had Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Romans in his heart.
 - ii) He looked into the Old Testament and saw the following:
 - (1) In the tabernacle, he saw Jesus.
 - (2) In the Levitical offerings, he saw Jesus.
 - (3) In the ceremonies, he saw Jesus.
 - (4) In the law, he saw Jesus.
 - (5) In the prophets, he saw Jesus.
 - (6) In the Psalms, he saw Jesus.
 - (a) The whole Bible was full of Jesus, but he had never seen it before.
 - (i) The Lord had taken the scales from his eyes.
 - g) When we are saved, we get a new Lord and a new life.
 - i) The Bible will burst aflame in our hands.
 - (1) We will be able to see those things that we had never seen before.
 - (2) The Lord will give us light and insight into things that we could never know apart from divine illumination.
- 4) PAUL HAD A NEW LIBERTY (ACTS 9:17)
- a) 2 Corinthians 3:17
 - b) Paul received a new liberty; he received power.
 - i) He had been bound by the law of sin and death.
 - ii) He had been struggling; he had been trying.
 - iii) He was religious; but the more he struggled, like a man in quicksand, the deeper he sank.
 - iv) The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus made him free from the law of sin and death.
 - (1) Romans 8:2

- c) There is a new liberty that comes when we are filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - i) A Christian is not just someone who endeavors to turn over a new leaf and to be nice.
 - ii) God infuses and energizes us.
 - (1) God puts within us His power.
 - iii) The Christian life is a changed life.
 - d) Not only is the Christian life a changed life, but it is also an exchanged life.
 - i) Galatians 2:20
 - (1) Jesus through the Spirit inhabits us.
 - (2) His divinity inhabits our humanity.
 - (a) We are filled with the life of God.
 - ii) Nobody has it in them to live a Christian life.
 - iii) The Christian life is what God does in us and through us.
 - (1) He gives us liberty.
 - (2) He has not asked us to do the impossible.
 - (3) Let Him be your Lord and your light, and He will be your liberty.
 - (a) He will give you strength and power.
 - e) The Spirit-filled life is not for super saints or those who have graduated or those who have lived a long time in Christ.
 - i) At this time, the Apostle Paul was a baby Christian.
 - (1) Ananias said to him, "*Be filled with the Holy Spirit.*"
 - (a) Acts 9:17
 - ii) Every Christian should be filled with the Spirit when they are saved.
 - (1) If you have been saved and are not filled, then you should be filled today.
 - (2) Ephesians 5:18
 - (a) This is not a request or a suggestion, but this is a command.
 - (3) It is foolish and wicked to try to do God's work without being filled with the Spirit.
 - f) How can we be filled with the Spirit?
 - i) Say what Paul said and mean it.
 - (1) Acts 9:6
 - ii) What we surrender, He takes.
 - iii) What He takes, He cleanses.
 - iv) What He cleanses, He fills.
 - v) What He fills, He uses.
- 5) PAUL HAD A NEW LOVE (ACTS 9:19)
- a) Acts 9:1
 - i) Paul had threatened the disciples.
 - ii) "Slaughter" here literally means "murder".
 - (1) His heart was filled with bitterness, vindictiveness, and malevolence toward those who were called Christians.
 - b) Those he once loathed, he now loved.

- i) He was with them.
 - (1) Acts 9:19
 - ii) When he was blind and the scales fell from his eyes, the first sight he saw was the face of Ananias.
 - iii) The first words he heard were, “Brother Saul”.
 - (1) Acts 9:17
 - (2) Here was a love and a fellowship.
 - c) Some people think they can be a Christian without loving the fellowship (the saints of God) and the church.
 - i) But if we love Jesus, then we will love what Jesus loves.
 - d) When we are saved, we receive the Spirit of God; and the nature of God is love.
 - i) 1 John 4:8
 - ii) 1 John 5:1
 - iii) We cannot have God in us and not have love in us.
 - (1) If we are born again, then the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit.
 - (a) Romans 5:5
 - (b) No wonder Paul loved them.
 - e) The church is the body of Jesus.
 - i) When the Apostle Paul was on the road to Damascus and Jesus appeared to him, He asked Saul why he was persecuting Him.
 - (1) Acts 9:4
 - ii) When someone persecutes the church, they persecute Christ.
 - (1) Christ is the head, and the church is the body.
 - (a) When the body suffers, the head suffers.
 - iii) To persecute the church is to persecute Jesus.
 - iv) To ignore the church is to ignore Jesus.
 - v) To honor the church is to honor Jesus.
 - f) There is no such thing as saying yes to Christ and no to the church.
 - i) The church and Christ are not identical, but they are inseparable.
 - g) Acts 9:19
 - i) We need one another.
- 6) PAUL HAD A NEW LABOR (ACTS 9:20-22)
- a) In this passage, the word “straightway” means “immediately”.
 - i) Paul’s labor before he was saved was to destroy the church.
 - (1) Paul’s labor now was to build the church.
 - ii) His labor before he was saved was to minimize Christ.
 - (1) Now, his labor was to maximize Christ.
 - b) The mark of someone made new is that he wants others to know about his Savior.
 - i) He is an evangelist; he is a soul winner.
 - c) The Apostle Paul met the Lord Jesus, and there was a change in him.

- i) He came to destroy the church, but now he was building the church.
 - (1) He was preaching Christ and proving that Christ is the Son of God.
- d) The mark of the new life in Christ is that we want to share Jesus Christ.
 - i) We cannot all do it the same way, but we can all have the same passion that Paul had.
 - (1) We can all have the same love and desire.

7) CONCLUSION

- a) The mark of a man made new is the following:
 - i) There is a new Lord.
 - ii) Because of that new Lord, there is a new light.
 - iii) Because of that new light, there is a new liberty, a new love, and a new labor.
- b) What the Lord did for the Apostle Paul, He will do for you.
- c) Romans 10:12-13
- d) 2 Corinthians 5:17
- e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16