

**Valley Bible Church**  
**Sermon Notes for October 11, 2020**

**Paul After His Conversion**  
**Acts 26:19-23**

Acts 26 records a hearing conducted by King Agrippa, so that he could advise the Roman governor Festus regarding how to communicate Paul's appeal to the Roman Emperor. This appeal not only delivered him from the Jews who sought his death but fulfilled a long held desire to minister in Rome (Romans 15:23).

Paul's address to Agrippa detailed God's work in Paul's life before his conversion (26:1-11), in his conversion (26:12-18) and now after his conversion.

**1. The faithful messenger (26:19-20)**

The heavenly vision that Paul spoke of was Christ's revelation to him in the prior verses. When God reveals Himself to us there is a necessary response in obedience. This response should include being used by God as an instrument of His revelation to others.

Paul described this ministry in a geographical sense, which mirrored the words of Christ in Acts 1:8. While Paul did not begin his ministry in Judea (Galatians 5:22) he would later arrive in Jerusalem (Acts 15ff). Christ's sending His disciples to the Gentiles was highlighted with Paul.

Paul declaration was for:

- a. Repentance--a change of mind
- b. Turning to God--a change of will
- c. Deeds appropriate to repentance--a change of action

Repentance is synonymous with faith (Luke 24:47) because it is the essence of faith, the change of mind. When we change our mind, it will produce a change in our desires, which will in turn lead to changes in our behavior.

**2. The faithless murderers (26:21)**

The true reason that the Jews seized Paul to kill him was because he preached to the Gentiles. The enemies of Christ are also opposed to the mission of Christ, which is to deliver the people of this world into the kingdom of God. Christ came to seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10) but the Jews sought to avoid the Gentiles.

**3. The faithful message (26:22-23)**

The faithful message that Paul testified to before King Agrippa and those who had gathered included:

- a. The supply of power in God
  - God's work will receive God's daily supply
- b. Speaking providentially for God
  - Paul stood as a witness rather than a defendant
- c. The span of people for God
  - Those hearing Paul included small and great
- d. The source of prophecy in God's word
  - Paul's message was from the Old Testament
- e. The suffering for people of God
  - Christ's death was foretold
- f. The significance of proclamation about God
  - The resurrection is the basis for salvation
- g. The salvation of people to God
  - God's light is for the world

This trial before Agrippa took place in the Gentile city of Caesarea. This is the final address in this Bible book to a Gentile audience. Jesus Christ came to conquer death in order to bring light to all men, including the Gentiles.

May we be faithful to the revelation of Christ by being used by God to proclaim light to a dying world.