

What One Can Be And Still Be Lost

Acts 22:1-16

Introduction:

- A. Saul was well-educated Pharisee with bright future (Acts 22:3)
- B. Saul was lost when Ananias came - else saved in sins. (v. 16)
- C. Saul had three outstanding qualities, but was still lost.

Discussion:

I. Saul Was a *Religious* Man, But Lost. (Acts 26:5).

- A. As a Pharisee, he lived his religion. (Acts 26:5; 22:3).
- B. As a Pharisee, he directed worship to God - not pagan god. (22:3).
- C. As a Pharisee, he practiced vain religion. (cf. Matt. 15:1-9).
 - 1. Religion vain if to wrong object. (Acts 14:15; 17:22,23)
 - 2. Religion vain if prompted by wrong doctrine. (Matt. 15:9).
 - 3. Religion vain if void of daily living. (Jas. 1:26,27).

II. Saul Was a *Sincere* Man, But Lost. (Acts 23:1)

- A. His conscience was clear because he thought he was right. (Acts 26:9).
 - 1. To think things right in physical realm does not make it right. (cf. Lk. 2:44).
 - 2. To think things right in spiritual realm does not make it right.
- B. His conscience was clear because he was misinformed. (cf. 1 Tim. 1:13).
 - 1. Conscience reacts to stored up information.
 - 2. Conscience like a clock, must be set right.
 - 3. Conscience must be clear - not seared - for own good.
- C. His Conscience was clear while Paul was "chief of sinners". (cf. 1 Tim. 1:15).

III. Saul Was a *Praying* Man, But Lost. (Acts 9:11,18; 22:16).

- A. His praying was fine, but prayer will not save an unbaptized sinner.
 - 1. Prayer a condition of forgiveness for baptized believers. (Acts 8:13,22).
 - 2. Prayer a privilege of God's Children, not to become children. (Gal. 3:26,27).
- B. His praying needed interrupted for baptism to wash his sins away. (Acts 22:16).

Conclusion:

- A. Do not trust in religion, education, sincerity nor praying to save - obey God!
- B. Do trust Jesus by doing His will: Believe, Repent, Confess and be baptized.
- C. Then, trust Him to keep you saved by walking in the light (obeying) and confessing sins and asking his forgiveness.