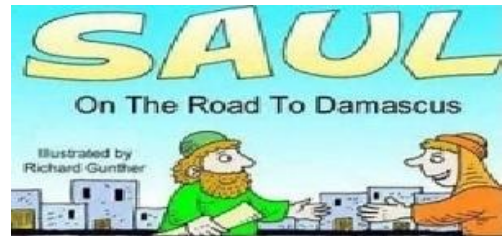


**The Answerer**

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## “I Saw The Light”

Is a famous song title by Jonny Cash - but its origin is in this Bible Story!  
I hope you appreciate the song all the more after understanding  
the change of an enemy of the first Christians who first had...

### ‘The Road to Damascus’ Experience’

*Mark 2:1-12 Acts Chapter 9:1-22*

#### **What is it? “The Road to Damascus’ Experience:”**

This is probably the most often used Bible quotation still in use today.

I mostly hear it from TV and radio sporting commentators. It is all about a complete turn-around in somebody’s life ... exactly 180 degrees.

In marching terms: to turn “about-face” and go the other way. Football example: Players change clubs affiliations and coaches coach a club they once despised.

A complete turn-around. It can also happen when a Muslim converts to Christianity or a Christian turns to Islam. (A Muslim to Christian conversion can mean death in some countries - it is illegal).

The Acts: In this book of the Bible ‘The Acts’ is literally an account (record) of just how the 12 disciples managed after Jesus’ life and his death, His resurrection and His going back to heaven.

It is a lively story of joy, love, persecution building up the church and of course death of some of them. It is also the story of ‘good work’ in missionary work and spreading the Gospel (that’s the ‘Good News’).



If you can - read the story leading up to Saul ‘Going after’ Christians.  
That is Acts 6:1 to chapter 7 verse 59.

‘The Damascus Road Experience’  
was originally Saul’s. It happened to him,  
a hater of people of ‘The Way’,  
(later called Christians).



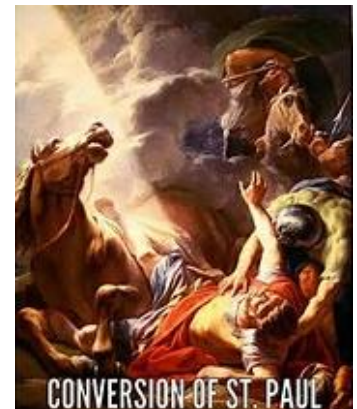
As 'The Way' began to spread.

Saul went and got letters of approval from the Priests at the Synagogue, giving Saul approval to search for and hunt down Christians.

**To bring them in chains to Jerusalem for possible death.**

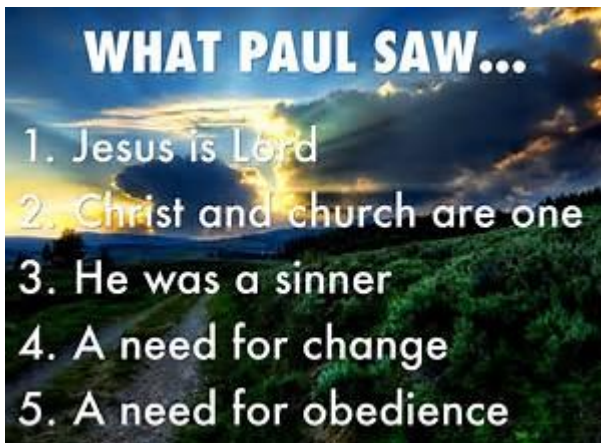
While on one of those trips to Damascus a very bright light shone around his travelling group and Saul was knocked to the ground. I presume he was riding a horse or a camel - maybe a carriage of some sort.

Then a loud voice called out: 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me.' Saul said: "Who are you Lord?" The voice: "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting." Saul was now blinded so could not see.



The rest is the completed 'Turnaround' by Saul. He was told to go to a certain house where he would be cared for. A Christian man, Ananias was told by the Lord to go and "Lay hands on Saul" to restore his sight. (How would you react if it was you who got those instructions): "But Lord, that man Saul is 'After us' and wants to capture us and take us off in chains to Jerusalem!" God then said, "No ... I have chosen him for special duties for me."

I think Saul had an IQ of over 130! (*Meaning he had a brilliant mind or brain.*)



Most of the apostles accepted Saul. **Saul was renamed Paul by God** - but several were doubtful at first.

The rest of the Damascus Road conversion can be read in Acts and the exquisite and outstanding work and writings of Paul are in the Bible. He wrote many letters to teach and encourage Christians. (See Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Philippians etc,)