

#8 *FORUM POST ON PAUL'S CONVERSION

Dear 2____,

Thanks for the great questions. I think I have some good answers for you.

You asked:

Do you really believe that Saul, later to be named Paul, became Spiritually Blinded at this moment?

No, Saul/Paul was already spiritually blind. Everyone is until they receive the Latter Rain of the Spirit. His physical blindness occurred on the Damascus Road as a "type" to show Gentile unbelievers that their spiritual blindness will also remain after they are called out from the world and have received the Early Rain of the Spirit.

1Tim 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

I believe the reason Paul was the one to show this "type" was because he was the one who was sent to the Gentiles.

The pathway to salvation includes these major steps: **1).** The Early Rain (being called out) **2).** Falling away from faith and answering the call of John the Baptist/Apostle John to repent from works **3).** After the pathway is made "straight", Christ will come again and pour out the Latter Rain (Baptism of the Holy Spirit) **4).** Judgment (Day of the Lord) upon the carnality of the believer.

The Early Rain is when a Gentile receives a measured amount of the Holy Spirit and is called out from the world. It is NOT the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain) that the Apostles received on the Day of Pentecost. At the time of the Early Rain, because of our spiritual blindness and carnal nature, we mix our own Works with the Works of Christ. We try to serve TWO masters. At this time, we remain under the Law just as the Jews did. It is for this reason that John the Baptist was sent to the Jews with a call of repentance from works. And in like manner, the Apostle John made the same call to Gentile believers.

Rev 18:4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

To understand what **Rev 18:4** is saying, one must understand who the Great Harlot/Mystery Babylon the Great is. She is the worsened spiritual state of our carnal nature. She is the one who teaches us to approach Christ by Works. We cannot be saved until she is destroyed and that is why her destruction comes quickly, in "one hour":

Rev 18:19 And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate.

Also, Saul had to ask who the voice was - this also "types" Saul's spiritual blindness because He could not see who it was speaking to him. When Christ come to us at the time of the Latter Rain, He appears to us because that is when He heals our spiritual blindness.

Saul also asks "what do you want me to do?" This is the immediate response we get from our carnal nature, it prefers Works over faith alone:

Luke 5:39 No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better.

The Old Wine represents the blood of the animal sacrifices of the Old Covenant of Law (man's works) and the New Wine represents Christ's blood of the New Covenant of Grace through Faith.

You asked:

I could certainly be wrong, but it seems (to me) that Saul was given the greatest sight he could ever hope for; for he was given the understanding to realize who and what that Power was, even though he could not see Christ the Lord with his physical eyes. Without physical eyes, Paul was given Spiritual Eyes to the degree that he instantly submitted to Christ. Instantly. No one is capable of submitting to Christ until they are able to Spiritually See.

John 9:39 NKJV - "And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind."

Jesus fulfilled His words with Paul in both senses. Paul claimed that he could Spiritually "see", but he was actually Spiritually blind. Thus, the Lord caused him to be physically blind. But on the other hand, Christ gave Paul the ability to Spiritually see when previously . . . he could not, thus he became physically blinded. Pretty incredible.

Is it possible that my response is correct?

Dear 2____,

Paul was probably given the greatest amount of spiritual vision of anyone who has ever lived, HOWEVER, that spiritual vision was not given to Him until he received the Latter Rain of the Spirit (Baptism of the Holy Spirit) which occurred three days later in Damascus. It was THREE days later because the number THREE is the spiritual symbol for a spiritual process. After the scales fell from Paul's eyes, He was told to eat meat. Meat is the deepest and most hidden aspect of God's Word.

I posted in my blog a detailed account of Paul's conversion experience. It "types" the Pathway to Salvation that all of Christ's Elect will follow. I also just posted a couple of other blogs on the Woman Taken in Adultery and the Parable of the Ten Virgins. They tie in nicely with Paul's conversion and the Wheat and the Tares parable.

Remember this as you try to understand:

Isa 28: 10-12 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: 11 For with stammering lips and another

language (spiritual language) will he speak to this people. 12 But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

This scripture is key in helping a believer understand scripture. The Truth of scripture is given to us in bits and pieces which have to be assembled. Christ is the Truth and He is the foundation of the building of Truth. Truth is assembled brick by brick. Also, scripture is written in Christ's spiritual language. This language teaches us using spiritual symbols and types. Types are actual events that teach a spiritual message (like Paul's conversion does). Scripture is not literal - it is spiritual. I have a blog on spiritual language, too.

The Word of God is wonderful when its truth opens up to a believer. This event happens when Christ gives one of His Chosen believers the Latter Rain of the Spirit. I received the Latter Rain on Oct. 8, 2005. My Latter Rain testimony is presented in my profile. It was the greatest day of my life.

I hope I have not gotten you too confused. If you have more questions, I would be happy to answer them.

Joe