

“The Power of Testimony”

Acts 26:6-23

I. What was Paul Like?

A) Paul’s Background

B) Paul’s Rationale

II. What Happened & How He Changed

A) God’s Emergency Intervention

B) A Vivid Picture of Repentance

Luke 19:8-9

III. The Substance of the Gospel

A) Pointing him to Bible

B) Our Lost Condition

John 12:46; 1 John 2:11; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Romans 6:14

C) Our Need of Forgiveness

D) The Suffering Christ

Isaiah 53:4-5

E) The Victorious Christ

F) The Gracious Invitation

Your Testimony

I. What were you like before becoming a Christian? *Choose one particular sin that would accurately describe your rebellion against God and His laws. Take a couple of sentences to describe what you were thinking, how you were living, and why you wanting nothing to do with God or Christianity.*

II. What were the circumstances that caused you to understand your sin, acknowledge your rebellion and see your need for a Savior? *Describe in some detail how you came to finally realize your depravity and the requirement of God to eternally punish your sins. Take time to explain to your listener both the justice of God [in demanding that every sin be punished] and the immeasurable love of God [in Jesus' voluntarily taking your punishment and completely forgiving you]. Be sure to mention the substance of the gospel in the midst of your personal testimony. Emphasize God's great love and mercy for you personally and how you responded to Christ's invitation, Romans 10:12-13 "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

III. What were some noticeable changes that occurred in your life and thinking after you repented and believed that Jesus died for your sins? *Describe the new desires and the inflamed passions God gave you in seeking and knowing Him that you didn't have before. Briefly describe one way your commitment to God has totally changed the way you think and the way you live.*

IV. How has God been faithful to not only save you, but to continue to grant you comfort and peace in your present situations, and give you a secure hope of eternal life after you die? *Describe your relationship with God right now and express your thankfulness and gratitude for His involvement. Include your secure hope of eternal life. Briefly explain to your listener that this forgiveness and this eternal relationship with Christ can be experienced by them if they too will repent and believe. Ask them, "Would you like to know Christ as Savior and experience the life changing power of God?"*

Luke 19:8-9 *And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." ⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham.*

John 12:46 *I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.*

2 Corinthians 4:4 *In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

Isaiah 53:4-5 *Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.*

Mark 9:31 *for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise."*