

^{9.1} Saul, still breathing out threats and killing the apprentices of the Lord, went to the leader of the temple-caretakers. ² Saul asked for letters from him to the synagogues in Damascus, so if any men or women were found being of the Way, then Saul could bring them in bondage up to Jerusalem. ³ While Saul was within grasp of Damascus, a light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. ⁴ Falling upon the earth, he listened to a voice saying to him,

“Saul, Saul! Why are you hunting me down?”

⁵ Saul said,

“Who are you, Lord?”

He replied,

“I AM Jesus, the one you are hunting down! ⁶ Stand up! Go into the city and, what is necessary for you to do, will be spoken to you.”

⁷ The men, who were traveling with Saul, stood by motionless, hearing the voice, but seeing no one. ⁸ When Saul rose from the earth, his eyes were open, but he was seeing nothing. Bringing him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days Saul could not see and he did not eat or drink. ¹⁰ There was an apprentice in Damascus named Ananias and the Lord said to him in a vision,

“Ananias.”

He said,

“Look! I am here, Lord!”

¹¹ Then the Lord said to him,

“Stand up! Go to the alley, which is called Straight, and seek in the house of Judah for one named Saul from Tarsus. For look, he is praying ¹² and has perceived a man named Ananias coming and putting hands upon him so he will see again.”

¹³ Ananias answered,

“Lord, I heard from many about how much harm this man did to your divine ones in Jerusalem ¹⁴ and even here he has authority from the leaders of the temple-caretakers to bind all those who are calling upon your name!”

¹⁵ The Lord said to him,

“Go! This one is my selected object to carry my name in the sight of the nations, rulers, and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much it is necessary for him to suffer on behalf of my name.”

¹⁷ Ananias departed and went into the house and, putting hands upon Saul, said,

“Brother Saul! The Lord Jesus, who appeared to you while you were coming on the way, sent me so you would see again and be filled with the Divine Breath!”

¹⁸ Immediately, something like scabs fell from Saul’s eyes. He saw again and, standing up, he was baptized. ¹⁹ Taking food, he was strengthened and was with the apprentices in Damascus. ²⁰ Immediately, Saul began proclaiming Jesus in the synagogues, saying,

“This one is the Child of the Creator!”

²¹ All who were listening were beside themselves, saying,

“Is this not the one who was in Jerusalem exterminating those calling upon this name? The one who came here to this place so he could bring them in bondage to the leaders of the temple-caretakers?”

²² Saul was being more empowered and was stirring up the Judeans dwelling in Damascus, concluding,

“This Jesus is the Anointed!”

²³ After adequate days, the Judeans wanted to execute him, ²⁴ but their plot was known by Saul. They began keeping close to the gates day and night, so they could execute him. ²⁵ After his apprentices took him, they let

Saul down through the wall at night, lowering him in a basket. ²⁶ Coming forth into Jerusalem, Saul began testing whether he could join the apprentices, but they were all fearing him, not trusting that he was an apprentice. ²⁷ Taking him, Barnabas brought him to the representatives and Barnabas described to them how Saul had seen and spoken to the Lord on the way and how, in Damascus, Saul spoke with confidence in the name of Jesus. ²⁸ Saul began being with them, going in and out of Jerusalem, confidently speaking in the name of the Lord. ²⁹ Then he began speaking and seeking together with the Greek-speaking-ones, but they began attempting to execute him. ³⁰ Recognizing this, the brothers brought Saul down to Caesarea and they sent him away to Tarsus. ³¹ Then the community throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria began having harmony, while being built up. With the fear of the Lord and with the exhortation of the Divine Breath, they began multiplying.

³² While Peter was going through every place, he came down to the divine ones dwelling in Lydda. ³³ There he found a person named Aeneas, who had been reclining on a cot for eight years because he was paralyzed. ³⁴ Peter said to him,

“Aeneas! Jesus, the Anointed, is healing you! Stand up and stabilize yourself.”

Immediately, he stood up. ³⁵ All those dwelling in Lydda and Sharon who saw him, turned back to the Lord. ³⁶ In Joppa there was an apprentice named Tabitha (interpreted as “Gazelle”) and she was full of good works and gifts-of-compassion that she was doing. ³⁷ In those days, after becoming weak, she died. Bathing her, they put her in the highest room. ³⁸ Because Lydda was within grasp of Joppa, the apprentices, after hearing that Peter was in Lydda, sent two men calling him,

“Do not delay in coming through to us!”

³⁹ Standing up, Peter went with them. Coming forth, they went up to the highest room. There, all the widows stood beside Peter, weeping and showing shirts and garments, which Gazelle had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Casting them all outside and kneeling, Peter prayed. Turning to the body, Peter said,

“Tabitha, stand up.”

She opened her eyes and, seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ Giving a hand to her, he helped her stand up. Calling for the divine ones and widows, Peter stood her before them alive. ⁴² It became known throughout all Joppa and many trusted the Lord. ⁴³ Peter remained adequate days in Joppa with Simon, the leather-maker.