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### **He Is Indeed The Son Of God!**

**Acts 9:19-25** - Saul stayed with the believers in Damascus for a few days. <sup>20</sup> And immediately he began preaching about Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is indeed the Son of God!" <sup>21</sup> All who heard him were amazed. "Isn't this the same man who caused such devastation among Jesus' followers in Jerusalem?" they asked. "And didn't he come here to arrest them and take them in chains to the leading priests?" <sup>22</sup> Saul's preaching became more and more powerful, and the Jews in Damascus couldn't refute his proofs that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. <sup>23</sup> After a while some of the Jews plotted together to kill him. <sup>24</sup> They were watching for him day and night at the city gate so they could murder him, but Saul was told about their plot. <sup>25</sup> So during the night, some of the other believers lowered him in a large basket through an opening in the city wall.

**He Wasn't Focused On Himself But On The Message That Had Changed His Life**

**We Don't Wait About Telling Others About Our Encounters With Jesus**

**Proverbs 19:2** - *Enthusiasm without knowledge is no good; haste makes mistakes.*

**1 Timothy 3:6** - *A church leader must not be a new believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall.*

- **Saul's Teachings About Christ Were Powerful Because He Was A Excellent Scholar**

**2 Timothy 2:15** - *Study and do your best to present yourself to God approved, a workman [tested by trial] who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately handling and skillfully teaching the word of truth. AMP*

- **More Powerful Than His Knowledge Was His Change**

**Make Sure Your Words Are Backed Up With A Transformed Life!**

**2 Corinthians 11:33** - *When I was in Damascus, the governor under King Aretas kept guards at the city gates to catch me. <sup>33</sup> I had to be lowered in a basket through a window in the city wall to escape from him.*

**James 4:6** - *"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."*

1. To Refine Our Character.
2. Strengthen Our Faith.
3. To Remind Us Of Our Dependence On Him.

**2 Corinthians 12:6-9** - ...because I don't want anyone to give me credit beyond what they can see in my life or hear in my message,<sup>7</sup> even though I have received such wonderful revelations from God. So to keep me from becoming proud, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger from Satan to torment me and keep me from becoming proud.<sup>8</sup> Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away.<sup>9</sup> Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness."

### **Saul Counted It A Privilege To Suffer For The Sake Of Christ**

**Philippians 3:5-8** - I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law.<sup>6</sup> I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.<sup>7</sup> I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done.<sup>8</sup> Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ

**2 Timothy 3:12** - Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.