

# Saul of Tarsus and Salvation!

When was Saul of Tarsus saved? This is an important question. Some people believe that Saul was saved on the road to Damascus when Jesus appeared to him and Saul responded to Jesus by saying "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:1-6) But if you consider carefully the entire story you will see that Saul was not saved until Ananias went to him and told him those things he had to do. Remember Jesus had told Saul to go to Damascus and it would be told him "***what he must do.***" And so Ananias told Saul he needed to "***Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.***" (Acts 22:16) And this is what Saul did according to Acts 9:18. Saul did not tarry, but was baptized immediately upon hearing the instructions from Ananias, who himself had been sent by Jesus. If Saul was saved on the road to Damascus as some suggest, then he was "***saved before his sins were ever forgiven and before he had ever called upon the name of the Lord.***" Unless of course you believe that Ananias did not know that Saul had already been saved because he had already "***called upon the name of the Lord.***" But this is unlikely since Ananias had again been sent by Jesus to tell Saul those things that he "**had to do.**" (Acts 9:6/Acts 22:10) This story clearly teaches that there is a difference between "***believing in Jesus***" and "***calling upon the name of the Lord.***" And since you must "***call upon the name of the Lord to be saved***" (Acts 2:21/Romans 10:13), and Saul didn't do this until after Ananias had spoken to him, then we know this is when Saul was saved, and not on the road to Damascus as so many people have been led to believe.

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