







### *Spotlight on Saul*

Paul: I am a Jew of Tarsus, brought up here in Jerusalem at the foot of Gamaliel. I have been brought up with a strict adherence to the Law and a zeal for God as you all have today. I persecuted those of that Way to the death, delivering into prison both men and women. From the council I received letters to go to Damascus to bring believers of the Way back to Jerusalem.

*As I was travelling to Damascus at noon.....Paul on the stairs fades out as the rest begin a re-enactment of the conversion while Paul remains on the stairs.)*

### **Flashback:**

*Saul walking across stage with companions. Paul out in front walking very determined – companions struggle in the heat behind him. Suddenly a bright light shines on them and all fall to the ground – companions look very frightened – covering their faces)*

Voice of Christ: Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?

Saul: Who are you?

Voice of Christ: I am Jesus of Nazareth who you are persecuting.

Saul: What shall I do Lord?

Voice: Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do. *(bright light fades and disappears)*

Companion 1: rubbing eyes – What a bright light!

Saul: Help me! I can't see a thing! The glory of the light has blinded me. Please help me. I need to get to Damascus. Could you lead me there by the hand?

Companion 2: Of course Saul. Here, come with us. *Companions take Saul's hand and lead him to a house on Straight Street*

*Sign held up across the stage - "Three Days Later" Paul sitting in the house. Ananias comes in and stands before Saul.*

Ananias: Brother Saul- I am Ananias. God has sent me to you. Receive your sight. *Saul looks around in astonishment that he can see – looks at hands, looks at Ananias.*

Ananias: The God of our fathers hath chosen you, that you should know his will, and see that Just One, and should hear His voice. You shalt be his witness unto all men of what you have seen and heard. What are you waiting for? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

*(Saul and Ananias leave off of the stage – light focuses back on Paul and the mob re-enters to finish the scene)*

Paul: After some time I came back to Jerusalem to meet the brethren. While praying in this temple I had another vision and the Lord told me “Go, for I will send you to the Gentiles -

*At the word Gentiles the mob becomes instantly angry – and begin screaming*

Mob:                -Away with him!                                -He is not fit to live!  
                         -Kill Him    -We cannot let him live!

*They rush the stairs and are held back by the soldiers. Claudius grabs Paul*

Claudius:            Take him to the tower! We will scourge him there!

*Lights fade on the scene while soldiers take Paul away with Claudius blocking the crowd from following.*

Narrator:            Paul had a deep affection for Israel. He knew their hatred was born out of ignorance as his own had been. This opportunity to speak to his people, though he was bound and beaten was his chance to explain the details of his great conversion from error to truth. He had been well-known as a persecutor of the Way. If so strong a persecutor could be so moved, surely the people would be moved too.

However, where Paul had failed the Lord Jesus Christ will succeed. Upon his return to his brethren in their hour of need “they shall look upon him whom they have pierced and will mourn for him as one that mourneth for his only son.”