

## What One Can Be and Still Be Lost

Acts 22:1-16

### INTRODUCTION:

1. Saul lost when Ananias came, else saved in his sins. (v. 16)
2. Saul had good qualities, still lost.

### DISCUSSION:

#### I. SAUL WAS A RELIGIOUS MAN, BUT LOST. (ACTS 26:5)

1. As a Pharisee, he lived his religion. (Acts 26:5; 22:3)
2. As a Pharisee, he directed religion to God, not a pagan. (Acts 22:3)
3. As a Pharisee, he practiced vain religion. (cf. Matt. 15:1-9).
  - (1). Religion is vain if directed to wrong object. (Cf. Acts 14:15; 17:22,23).
  - (2). Religion is vain if prompted by wrong doctrine. (Matt. 15:9).
  - (3). Religion is vain if void of daily living. (cf. James 1:26, 27).

#### II. SAUL WAS AN EDUCATED MAN, BUT LOST. (CF. ACTS 22:3)

1. His education was best Jewish boy could get. (Acts 5:34)
  - (1). Gamaliel was a renowned doctor of law.
  - (2). Gamaliel evidently taught Paul from "youth up". (Acts 26:4).
2. His education could not save him. (cf. Phil. 3:4-8).
  - (1). A good education is helpful in many areas of life.
  - (2). A good education cannot save your soul. (cf. I Cor. 1:20-21).
  - (3). A good education can hinder salvation, if trusted in. (I Cor. 1:22-31).

#### III. SAUL WAS A SINCERE MAN, BUT LOST. (ACTS 23:1).

1. His conscience was clear because he thought he was right. (Acts 26:9).
  - (1). To think things right in ordinary affairs does not make it so. (cf. Luke 2:44).
  - (2). To think things right in religion does not make it so.
2. His conscience was clear because it was a misinformed conscience. (cf. 1 Tim. 1:13).
  - (1). A conscience reacts to "stored up information".
  - (2). A conscience, like a clock, must be set right.
  - (3). A conscience must be clear, not seared, for own good.
3. His conscience was clear while Paul was "chief of sinners". (cf. 1 Tim. 1:15).

#### IV. SAUL WAS A PRAYING MAN, BUT LOST. (ACTS 9:11, 18, 22:16).

1. His praying was fine, but prayer is not a condition of salvation for unbaptized one.
  - (1). Prayer a condition of forgiveness of baptized believers. (cf. Acts 8:13,22).
  - (2). Prayer is a privilege of God's children, not to become children. (Gal. 3:26-27)
2. His praying needed interruption for baptism to wash sins away. (Acts. 22:16).

### CONCLUSION:

1. Do not trust in religion, education, sincerity nor praying to save--obey God!
2. Do trust Jesus by doing his will: Believe, Repent, Confess and be baptized; worship and serve Scripturally. (John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Rom. 10:10; Acts 22:16; Rev. 2:10).