

Against all odds!

The apostle Paul's conversion the road to Damascus shows how God can move a rebellious heart without an evangelist, Bible teacher or other Christian contact.

Paul - known as Saul before his conversion – thought he was pleasing God because he was harassing the disciples of Jesus (Acts 9.1-2)

He soon learnt otherwise.

A bright light shone from heaven, he heard a clear, demanding voice: “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” (Acts 9.4), and when he asked, “Who are you, Lord?” he received the staggering reply, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting”! (Acts 9.5).

This man Jesus – the target of his fury – was supposed to be dead and buried! Instead he was very much alive.

Paul had thought he was dealing only with a company of poor, weak, silly people.

He found instead that he was opposing the very powers of heaven.

Paul's urgent response – “Lord, what will you have me to do?” (Acts 9.6) – was distinctive proof of his immediate conversion.

Against all odds, the Son of God had changed rebellious Saul into the disciple, Paul.

This encounter demonstrates what each of us should do when we come face to with the truth.

We ought, like Paul, surrender our will to the Lord Jesus.

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GOOD NEWS IN BRIEF

Sometimes the grace of God works upon a sinner when he is at his worst – hotly engages in the most desperate and sinful pursuits.

Ken Packer