



A total makeover

May 29, 2017

ACTS 9:3-5 NKJV – (3) As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. **(4)** Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" **(5)** And he said, "Who are You, Lord?"

Personality researchers have begun looking more closely at the smaller ways we can and do change. Positive psychologists, who investigate human talents, have identified 24 character strengths - familiar qualities we admire, such as integrity, loyalty, kindness, vitality – and, through research, are exploring why these faculties come so naturally to some people. What they are uncovering is that many of these qualities amount to habitual ways of responding to the world - habits that can be learned. This tells us that many of us can learn to do good but, oftentimes, take another route and engage in very wrong behavior with devastating results!

Such is the case with Saul and many others that have followed the same path. Those of us that have sinned must remember, however, that even if we do not sin to Saul's level, sin is not measured. God addressed Saul in the scripture above and He asks the same of all people today.

Remove Saul's name in verse 4 and replace with your name. Will you give the same answer as Saul in verse 5?

Many persecute their own brothers and sisters in church and are calling out for a "**Spiritual makeover!**" When God does a spiritual makeover, here are the results:

1. He **condemned** Saul - to declare to be reprehensible, wrong, or evil usually after weighing evidence and without reservation; (**verse 5**)
2. Saul was **convicted** - the act of convincing one's self of error or of compelling the admission of a truth; (**verse 6**)
3. This not only led to God's **correction**, but **care** - something substituted in place of what is wrong; a disquieted state of mixed uncertainty, apprehension, and responsibility; (**verses 10-17**)
4. Saul experiences **conversion** - an experience associated with the definite and decisive acceptance of a religion; (**verses 18-19**)
5. **Change** has taken place - to make different in some particular. (**verses 20-22**)

Often people cannot their need for a makeover. We who are spiritual should be in prayer for others, for unless God does to them the same which He has done to Saul, they may never know. Do not tell others that they are ugly... "Pray for them".

SCRIPTURE READING
EPHESIANS 2:10

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Heaven's riches are tax free!