

## When We Are Chosen

**Scripture:** Acts 9:15-16  
Matthew 22:14  
Romans 11:29

### Introduction

Here is a man who is chosen specifically by God. He is given purpose, reason for living, a goal to achieve, and a task to accomplish. God has chosen him.

#### I. He was chosen when he opposed the work of God

**Acts 9:3-4 NIV** As he neared Damascus on his Journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

- A. God saw potential when Saul was his enemy
- B. God was not looking at what he was doing but what he could be doing
- C. God was willing to forgive the past and give him a ministry.

#### II. He was chosen before he came to his point of submission

**Acts 9:5a NIV** "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

- A. Our submission postdates our being chosen
- B. Our submission is critical to the success of our ministry
- C. Our submission predates our being used in ministry

#### III. He was chosen to fulfill a lifelong mission

**Acts 9:15-16 NIV** But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.

- A. God did not discard him for his past
- B. God chose to use his talent and ability

- C. God placed him where he could:
  - 1. Use his past training
  - 2. Use his past strengths and weaknesses
- D. God chose him to invest his life in the work of the gospel
  - 1. As an ambassador to kings
  - 2. As an indictment to the people of Israel
  - 3. As an apostle to the Gentiles
- E. He promised to show Saul (Paul) what he would suffer for the sake of the name of Jesus Christ