

THE GREAT WENCHOSTER BIBLE
ACTS 9: 1-19

1. And Saul, yet breathing out threats and ejaculations (let the reader understand) against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,
2. And desireth he of him an hand-written letter, on his best parchment, and signed with his own name (not his secretary's, nor that nice tall scribe,) to the Damascus synagogues, that if he found any of this way, or that way, or any way for that matter, whether they were men or women or otherwise, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
3. And on the third day, as he journeyed on horseback, having borrowed a mount from Josephus, as well as an horse, he came near Damascus on the B-road. [1] and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:
4. And he fell unto the earth, catching his right foot in the stirrup, which caused him no little embarrassment, and some pain. And he did bite the dust. And also he did wince a bit. And he heard a voice saying his name, and asking, Quo vadis? And he did say, Huh? I speak not Latin. Talk to me in Hebrew. Then sayeth the voice, Oy vey! Whither goest thou, and with what purpose?
5. And he questioned, Who is saying that? And he accused his fellow travellers of practicing ventriloquism, exclaiming, Verily I saw your lips move! And the voice sayeth, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. And he added, It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. But he did not understand the relevance of this, then or later, for he was not wearing spurs.
6. And he trembled exceedingly, astonished and damp in the lower regions (for it had been raining and the ground was wet) and said, What wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go unto the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.
7. And the men which journeyed with him stood wide eyed and speechless, for they heard a voice, but could not tell from whence it came. And some were sore, and afraid. And two doubted.
8. And lo! Saul arose from the earth; and when he opened his eyes, he saw neither man nor beast, nor his fallen knapsack containing the letter and a bottle of fortified wine. And his companions led him by the hand to his horse, which he mounted. Gingerly. And afterward they brought him unto Damascus.
9. And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink, but a certain woman named Damaris came and read to him from scripture and comforted him in many ways.
10. And it came to pass that there was a disciple in Damascus, named Ananias; and he received a vision from the Lord and heard him call his name. And remembering from Sunday School the tale of Samuel he answered, Behold, I am here, Lord.
11. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, not the twisty one next to it, nor the little alleyway that leadeth to the wine bar, especially that one, but the one in the middle, the straight one, and enquire at the house of Judas [2] for one called Saul of Tarsus who is praying,
12. For he hath seen in a dream a man looking like you coming in, and laying his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. Got it?
13. But Ananias answered, Lord, I have a twin brother. Might this not be a message for him? Seriously? But the Lord answered, No way! So, Ananias said, This man was expected, for he hath persecuted the followers in Jerusalem, in very nasty ways.
14. And furthermore, we believe that he carryeth super-authority from the chief priests to arrest all that call on thy name.

15. But the Lord said unto him, Shut up! Look, I knowest what I'm doing. Get thee to him with haste, for he will carry my name before the pagans, and kings, and upset the very children of Israel.
16. For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. And Ananias raised his eyes unto heaven, and said, Oo-er! [3]
17. Yet he went diligently and straightway unto the straight street without stopping at the nearby tavern, and entered into the house; and laying his hands upon Saul said, Brother, the Lord that appeared unto thee on the way as thou camest here hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And then go on to write divers epistles with long sentences.
18. And immediately there fell from Saul's eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and he arose, changed his clothes, for after three days he reeketh, and there was exceeding soil, and he was baptized. And he marvelled, for it was not dark.
19. And when he had eaten an hearty meal, he was much strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

[1] The maps are unclear. Scholars are divided as to whether this was the route to Bethlehem. If it was, they were going in the wrong direction.

[2] Not that one. Another one.

[3] Aramaic for Oo-er!