



THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH

July 6, 2025 Summer Quarter Volume 44 Lesson 6
Kauai Branch 45th Anniversary

A LIGHT FROM HEAVEN

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *Acts 26:13-23*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

God enlightens by “lighting the night” dispelling humanism in believers. Light reveals things that are hidden and shrouded in spiritual darkness and blindness (*John 1:1-14*). Jesus said, “. . . *I am the light of the world*” (*John 9:5*).

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

For thou art my lamp, O LORD: and the LORD will lighten my darkness (II Samuel 22:29).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. Paul saw a Light and heard a voice from heaven. His experience was dramatic, sudden, extreme, immediate. Repenting “immediately” dispelled the darkness of his spirit. He no longer stood upon the wisdom of men, but on the power of God (*Acts 9:17; I Corinthians 2:4-5; Philippians 3:9-10; I Timothy 1:10-13*).
2. Nicodemus, a Pharisee, having a heart that feared God, was unable to repress his personal convictions. His curious spirit caused him to pursue Jesus in the darkness of night and his “darkness” was faced with change (*John 3:1-3*).
3. The natural life and growth depend on light from the sun. Spiritual life and growth depend on the Light of God (*I John 1:5*).
4. God’s Light enlightens those who have yet to come to the knowledge of the Truth; believers who have left their first love; those who are deceiving and being deceived (*Romans 1:18; I Timothy 2:4; II Timothy 3:13; Revelation 2:4*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

The Book of *Acts* records Paul’s unique and compelling experience. Paul went from being a fierce anti-Christ Pharisee to a person “full of the Holy Ghost” (*Acts 9:17*). *Acts* chapter 9 describes Paul as being engaged by God on that infamous mission to Damascus. For Paul, the experience was “earth shaking!” The Light ousted his unprecedented passion and views against the Name of Jesus. Later, Paul boldly defends his life-changing experience to a multitude of listeners and the governors of Jerusalem and Rome (*Acts 22:1-17, 26:13-23*). Paul boldly defended his conversion, then spoke with intense passion preaching Christ crucified (*I Corinthians 1:23*). The change that took place in Paul was entirely spiritual and preaching the gospel was first and foremost (*Philippians 3*). With a changed spirit, Paul’s calling was twofold: Be a minister and be a witness for the name of Jesus (*Acts 26:16; Colossians 1:27*). Paul’s spiritual growth was not taught by “flesh and blood,” but he spent three years in Arabia, being taught directly by the Holy Ghost (*Galatians 1:16*).

LESSON SUMMARY:

Instead of persecuting, Paul, now “full of the Holy Ghost,” preached in support of the Gospel with undaunted passion and fortitude. Visualize Paul’s unspeakable joy, literally “speaking in tongues of fire,” each time he relived the experience. It is significant that Paul made it less of himself and focused more of Jesus. Jesus instructed Paul to “. . . *open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God*” (*Acts 26:18*). Paul was appointed to be a witness and testimony to preach the gospel in Jerusalem and Rome. He was one who could lead with the integrity of his heart and the skillfulness of his hands (*Psalms 78:72*). Penitent and deliberate, armed with stamina, fortitude, and boldness, empowered by and full of the Holy Ghost Paul employed his deep-seated skills to bring Old and New Testaments to one conclusion: Christ Jesus!

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