Introduction:
1. Zeal is a great asset when it is pointed in the right direction -Ro 10:2
2. The conversion of Saul gives us great hope today.
3. In this lesson we will examine the conversion of Saul and the hope that we find through it...

I. HIS DEVASTATION -9:1-9
A. HIS PERSPECTIVE
1. Saul thought he was doing right in the sight of God -Ac 23:1; Jn 16:2
2. While the Sanhedrin would make threats, Saul was coming after the followers

B. HIS VISION
1. He learns that he is not pleasing God, but persecuting Christ.
2. When one persecutes the church, he is persecuting the bride of Christ -Ref. Ep 5:25-ff
3. Hard to kick against the goads (i.e. the authority belongs to Christ)
4. Saul is told to enter the city and it will be told what he must do
   a. The treasure is in earthen vessels -2Co 4:6
   b. Saul is without his sight. He neither eats nor drinks for three days.

II. HIS BAPTISM -9:10-19
A. ANANIAS IS RELUCTANT
1. He heard from others concerning the behavior and mission of Saul
2. The Lord convinces him to go

B. THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM
1. He receives his sight
2. He is then baptized -Ac 22:16

III. HE PREACHES JESUS AS THE CHRIST -9:20-31
A. HIS PREACHING PUTS HIS LIFE AT RISK
1. He began to prove that Jesus is the Son of God -9:20-22
2. The disciples at Damascus save his life -9:23-25

B. SOME CONTROVERSY ARISES
1. Some disciples do not believe that his conversion is authentic
2. Barnabas assures them of his conversion and sincerity
3. The church prospers -9:31

Conclusion:
1. The blood of Jesus is more powerful than any sin man is willing to repent of -1Ti 2:12-15
2. Salvation is for whosoever will!