# Acts 9 Sermon Outline

1. Paul’s violent zeal (Acts 9:1-2)
   1. Violence can sometimes be justified (Phinehas in Numbers 25)
   2. Paul thought that Jesus followers were idolators
      1. Jesus was a man, not God
      2. The Messiah would not be crucified
2. The blinding light (Acts 9:3)
   1. The divine figure (the vision of the divine throne in Ezekiel 1)
   2. Paul asks “Who are you, Lord?”
   3. The shocking answer: “I am Jesus”
   4. Paul would need to re-think:
      1. The Shema – “Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is One” to 1 Cor 8:6 “For us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.”
      2. The crucified Messiah – Galatians 3:13
3. The divine voice (Acts 9:4-5)
   1. The use of the first person
   2. Jesus life is in his followers
   3. Paul’s Temple and Body of Christ imagery
   4. The social revolution - Galatians 3:28
4. The failure of violent zeal
   1. Paul’s focus on Jewish law led him to oppose Jesus
   2. Ananias’s faith led him to love his enemy
   3. Paul: Faith is the hallmark of Jesus followers
5. Closing reflections
   1. There is no one way to become a Jesus follower but we must recognize Jesus as Lord
   2. God lives in people, not the church building, the teaching, the music etc.
   3. Jesus followers do not have to look and sound the same