

Ananias

Given Great Privilege

Acts 9:10-18, 22:12-16

Pew Bible Page 1139 & 1159

- Can you imagine being the man chosen by God to first interact with and encourage the apostle Paul?
- Why did Ananias receive such a privilege?
- Ananias was not a famous, well-known believer. He is not mentioned in Scripture outside of this event. Yet, Ananias was given such great privilege from the Lord. Why?

First, because he had a testimony of _____

– Acts 22:12

- He not only had a faithful testimony with God, but he also had a faithful testimony with _____. He had a “good report” of all the Jews in the area of Damascus.
- God rewards great faithfulness with great privilege.
- *"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."* **1 Corinthians 4:2**
- *"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?"* **Luke 16:10-12**
- Every person can be faithful. Yet very _____ **are** faithful.

- *"Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?" Proverbs 20:6*

**Second, because he had a tender heart to _____
to God – 9:10**

- God _____ to us through His written and completed Word.
- You must be in His Word and have a tender heart to receive His Word.
- The opposite of a tender heart would be a cold, hard heart. Hebrews 3:7-12, 15-19

**Third, because his desire to _____ God was
stronger than his fears – vs. 13-17a**

- When you serve God and seek to obey God, sometimes it can be scary. God's way is not always the "_____" way, or "easy" way.
- If we want God to trust us with great privilege, we have to have a burning desire and thirst to obey God. Acts 5:17-18, 28-29, 40-42
- What privilege this man Ananias had! But it didn't happen by _____, or chance, or through a random choice of God. It happened because he was faithful, tender-hearted, and obedient.