

Recap of 8/28/22 message by Joe Ricchuiti – Acts 26:1-11

1. Paul's message is designed to reach out with the gospel to these secular leaders and to demonstrate that Christianity is not an innovation or a deviation from Jewish belief but rather the fulfillment of Old Testament promises.
2. Paul began as an **apostolos** (an emissary) of the Sanhedrin in persecuting the Christians (vv. 10, 12); and after meeting the risen Christ became an **apostolos** (an Apostle) of Jesus Christ (vv. 17-18). Only Paul's Damascus Road experience could account for such a change in his life.
3. "What do we do when our lives get out of focus and we're no longer doing what God has Called us to do? Too often, nothing! Sometimes the blurring occurs so gradually that we don't even know that we're out of focus. All the more reason to keep our eyes on Jesus.... There are hundreds of good activities you can be involved in as a Christian but what is most important? What is worth giving your life to? Jesus' primary objective was to help people walk in the light of God's Word and experience the salvation He offered. Shouldn't that be our focus, too?" (LeRoy Eims)
4. Key thoughts in Paul's defense (Charles Erdman):
 - "Faith in a risen, divine Christ is the heart of Christianity."
 - "The resurrection is attested by competent human witnesses [not to mention the witness of the Old Testament, as well as Jesus' testimony]"
 - "The message of salvation is intended for all people—all of mankind."