WHAT IF? KNOW GOD ACTS – PART 2 Daniel Cassels April 23, 2023

## 1. DON'T LIMIT GOD'S

<sup>58</sup> They dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. And the witnesses laid their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.
<sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" <sup>60</sup> He knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" And after saying this, he fell asleep. Acts 7:58–60

Saul agreed with putting him to death. On that day a severe persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the land of Judea and Samaria. <sup>2</sup> Devout men buried Stephen and mourned deeply over him. <sup>3</sup> Saul, however, was ravaging the church. He would enter house after house, drag off men and women, and put them in prison. Acts 8:1–3

<sup>4</sup>So those who were scattered went on their way preaching the word. Acts 8:4

<sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, "Go and join that chariot." Acts 8:29
<sup>34</sup> The eunuch said to Philip, "I ask you, who is the prophet saying this about—himself or someone else?" Acts 8:34

<sup>35</sup> Philip proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning with that Scripture. <sup>36</sup> As they were traveling down the road, they came to some water. The eunuch said, "Look, there's water. What would keep me from being baptized?" Acts 8:35–36

## 2. DON'T LIMIT GOD'S

<sup>3</sup> As he traveled and was nearing Damascus, a light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> Falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" <sup>5</sup> "Who are you, Lord?" Saul said. "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting," he replied. <sup>6</sup> "But get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." Acts 9:3–6

<sup>11</sup> "Get up and go to the street called Straight," the Lord said to him, "to the house of Judas, and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, since he is praying there. <sup>12</sup> In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and placing his hands on him so that he may regain his sight." <sup>13</sup> "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard from many people about this man, how much harm he has done to your saints in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for this man is my chosen instrument to take my name to Gentiles, kings, and Israelites. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." Acts 9:11–16

<sup>14</sup> "No, Lord!" Peter said. "For I have never eaten anything impure and ritually unclean." <sup>15</sup> Again, a second time, the voice said to him, "What God has made clean, do not call impure." <sup>16</sup> This happened three times, and suddenly the object was taken up into heaven. Acts 10:14–16

## 3. PUSHBACK DOESN'T MEANS \_

About that time King Herod violently attacked some who belonged to the church, <sup>2</sup> and he executed James, John's brother, with the sword. <sup>3</sup> When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter too, during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. Acts 12:1–3

<sup>5</sup> So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was praying fervently to God for him. Acts 12:5

<sup>6</sup> When Herod was about to bring him out for trial, that very night Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while the sentries in front of the door guarded the prison. <sup>7</sup> Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell. Striking Peter on the side, he woke him up and said, "Quick, get up!" And the chains fell off his wrists. <sup>8</sup> "Get dressed," the angel told him, "and put on your sandals." And he did. "Wrap your cloak around you," he told him, "and follow me." Acts 12:6–8

<sup>13</sup> He knocked at the door of the outer gate, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer. <sup>14</sup> She recognized Peter's voice, and because of her joy, she did not open the gate but ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the outer gate. <sup>15</sup> "You're out of your mind!" they told her. But she kept insisting that it was true, and they said, "It's his angel." <sup>16</sup> Peter, however, kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were amazed. Acts 12:13–16

<sup>9</sup> If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation. Romans 10:9–10 (Christian Standard Bible)