

utmost of his power ; and not content with doing so in and around Jerusalem, he asked letters of the high priest to the synagogues in Damascus, so that he might go thither in quest of any Christians who might be in that city, in order to bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Q. What occurred whilst Saul was on his way to Damascus?

A. A bright light suddenly shone around him, so dazzling that it struck him with blindness, and he heard a voice calling, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Amazed and terrified, he fell prostrate on the ground, and asked, "Who art thou, Lord?" When the answer was given him, "I am Jesus, whom thou persecutest." Saul then asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me do?" Arise, and go into the city," said our Lord, "and there it shall be told thee what thou must do."

Q. What did Saul then do?

A. Being unable to see, he was led by his companions to Damascus, where he remained three days and three nights without food. Being restored to sight by a holy man named Ananias, who also instructed and baptized him, Paul, as he was thenceforward called, became as zealous a Christian as he had before been a Jew, and preached Christianity in the synagogues.

Q. Were the Jews of Damascus enraged at Saul's conversion?

A. Yes; they sought to kill him, but the faithful succeeded in concealing him from their fury, and let him down from the town wall by night in a basket, so that he escaped, and returned to Jerusalem.