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# Keystone BAPTIST

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## A Brief Look at the Pre-Conversion & Post-conversion Life of the Apostle Paul

By Ken Lynch, Evangelist

The Apostle Paul. A man of renown, a man of God, a man of great humility, and the man chosen by God to write roughly half of the New Testament. A man emulated by many, feared by many, but a man who gave his entire life after his conversion to evangelize the lost and edify the Church.

In all but two of Paul's letters, he opens with one of two statements: "Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ," or "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ." In his two letters to the Thessalonian church, he begins by simply identifying himself as "Paul" along with his co-laborers before addressing the church. In every instance, he begins by identifying himself as the author. There can be no doubt as to the authorship of Paul's letters. It is interesting to consider Paul's life, both in a pre-conversion way as well as a post-conversion way.

### Paul's Pre-Conversion Life

*First*, Paul was a politically "free-born" citizen of the Roman empire born in the city of Tarsus (Acts 3:8). In Acts 16:37, after having been beaten and thrown into a jail in Philippi, he claimed his Roman citizenship when the authorities sent word to the keeper of the prison to set the prisoners free. He reminded the authorities that he had been publicly beaten as an un-condemned Roman citizen striking fear in the minds and hearts of the magistrates. Beating a Roman citizen without a proper trial and conviction was a very serious matter. It was on that occasion that Paul, upon being informed of his release, refused to leave the prison, almost demanding that the authorities themselves come and let him out. Little wonder, then that the magistrates made haste to the jail and "desired" Paul and his companions to leave town as quickly as possible.

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## Is the Water Getting Warmer?

You may think I am referring to “global warming” or what is now called by liberals as “climate change”, which

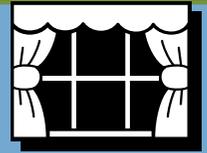
is so ridiculous. Hasn't anyone told them that our Great God made four seasons, spring, summer, fall and winter – that's real climate change, but that is not what I am referring to – no, no, no. Take a minute to think with me on another direction.

Picture a bunch of frogs swimming around in a big black kettle setting on a stove. The stove is one of the new digitally controlled models that makes it extremely accurate and it is very intentional when the temperature of the stove is turned up a degree or so. As the frogs are swimming around the temperature is slowly increased one digital degree at a time. Finally, one of the frogs still has enough discernment to notice and asks his fellow frogs, “Does anyone notice the water is getting much warmer?”

Well, you all know this old familiar story – the water was getting warmer and warmer. Everyone felt so good. The other frogs were almost insulted that anyone would think the water was too warm. They must have thought, “So what if the water is a little warmer – it just feels so good.” They probably told him, “Don't be such a fussy, fundamental, independent Baptist. Just keep swimming and enjoy it. So what if it is getting warmer!” Sadly, the temperature digitally increased to a deadly degree.

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## From the Parsonage Window



### AND A CERTAIN WOMAN...

*"And a certain woman cast a piece of millstone upon Abimelech's head, and all to brake his skull" (Judges 9:53).*

The first sound heard early in the morning in many middle eastern villages, sometimes even today, is the sound of the grinding of grain. There is a rhythm to the sound which many find comforting and denoting provision.

Grinding the day's grain for the day's bread is synonymous with women's role in the eastern culture. Beginning from the earliest of time, the millstone, upon which the grain is ground, was a woman's most important household possession. In biblical times, there were no grocery stores or prepackaged “enriched flours” available.

A woman's millstone was portable enough to be carried from place to place because the eastern families were often nomadic. The millstones were called hand mills or rubbing stones. They are composed of two stones 18 to 24” in diameter. Sometimes two women facing each other will work at the same stone. The upper stone turns upon the lower one by means of an upright handle, which the women alternately pull and push.

In our days of gadgets and convenience, we wouldn't think of owning a millstone. Yet, the eastern woman, would take no money for hers. The “certain” woman of Judges 9:53 was no exception.

In only 19 words, we read about her. And, we never know her name. Yet, in one swift movement, her millstone gave Israel more than 40 years of peace. Wouldn't you think, we'd at least be told her name? What's more important: one's name? what she did? or how God used her?

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Later, following one of Paul's dramatic and electrifying defenses of the gospel, the people became enraged crying out that "it is not fit that he should live" (Acts 22:23). It was then that the chief captain took Paul into custody and ordered him to be "examined by scourging." As he was being bound, Paul asked a centurion standing nearby, "Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman and un-condemned?" Upon informing the higher authorities of Paul's Roman citizenship, the chief captain came and inquired of Paul, "Are you really a Roman?" Upon Paul's affirmation, the captain remarked, almost wistfully, "With a great sum obtained I this freedom," to which Paul remarked, "But I was free-born."

**Second**, he was a *Pharisee*, or, in his own words, a "Hebrew of the Hebrews." In Philippians 3, Paul describes his religious background and training as having been circumcised the eighth day (according to the Law); a Benjamite and a Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the Law, a Pharisee with great zeal. He was well educated having sat at the feet of Gamaliel (Acts 22:3), a well-known and well-respected teacher who was also a Pharisee.

**Finally**, he was a *persecutor* of the Church (see Acts 9:14, 22; 22:4; 26:11; I Timothy 1:13). In Acts 8, Paul, then Saul<sup>1</sup>, is described as making havoc of the church, where he would literally enter into private homes and take people, both men and women, and committing them to prison. Many were even killed. Paul, as the young man Saul, stood by holding the coats of those who stoned Stephen to death. Perhaps that might have been his first occasion to witness the persecution of God's people and may have been used of Satan to "whet his appetite" for persecuting the new sect known as "Christians." In writing to his young friend Timothy, Paul described himself as a "blasphemer, a persecutor and injurious" (I Timothy 1:13).

In his letter to the Galatians, Paul described his life before conversion as persecuting the church of God beyond measure and literally wasting it (Galatians 1:13). The English word *wasted* comes from the Greek *por-theh-o* and means "to sack or ravage" ultimately destroying. In his zeal without knowledge, Saul did his best to destroy the Church of God. In verse 23 of the same chapter, he remarked that "They had heard only, that he which persecuted us in times past now preacheth the faith which once *he destroyed*."

To summarize, the Apostle Paul was from Tarsus, a Jew from the tribe of Benjamin, circumcised the eighth day and a free-born Roman citizen who studied at the feet of Gamaliel. He was also a major persecutor of the early church making havoc of it and one who participated in the death of Stephen. But, praise God, all of that changed on the road to Damascus when he became a convert to the Christ he had so viciously persecuted.

### Paul's Post-Conversion Life

There are seven notable aspects of Paul's post-conversion life that are interesting to contemplate. **First**, soon after his conversion on the Damascus Road, Paul became a mighty *preacher* of the gospel (Acts 9:20-21, 27; I Corinthians 9:16). The gospel he once fought, he now defended and fearlessly proclaimed. In fact, he was imprisoned more than once because of his preaching of the gospel. In his letter to the Philippians, he encouraged the church in that city that "the things

<sup>1</sup> *Saul*, his appointed Hebrew name, means *desired* (cf. Philippians 3:4-8); while his adopted name, *Paul*, was a Roman name, meaning *little* (cf. I Timothy 1:15).

that had happened to me [namely his imprisonment] have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel” even to the point where people living in Caesar’s palace were being converted! (Philippians 1:12-13) Incidentally, that palace would be the residence of Nero, the madman who allegedly “fiddled” [not literally, of course] while Rome burned; a devastating fire that Nero was believed to have set. Later, it was under the reign of Nero that Paul was martyred in Rome.

**Second**, he was a *prophet*. While Paul’s ministry was not primarily that of prophecy he was, in his own right, a prophet, nonetheless. In I Thessalonians 4, Paul presents one of the greatest prophecies for the Church today. It is known as the Rapture of the Church, which event Paul looked for in his own lifetime (“then *we* which are alive and remain”). The imminency of the rapture of the Church simply means that there is nothing that needs to happen before the Lord’s return for His Bride. It could happen at any moment of the day or night. What a blessing to realize that the Church will go through *none* of the Tribulation. Dispensationally, the Church and Israel are two completely different entities; the rapture involving only the Church and *not* Israel. But that is another subject entirely.

**Third**, Paul was a *personal soul-winner*. An incident worth noting took place in Paphos where Paul was able to lead a man named Sergius Paulus, the deputy of the country and a very influential political leader, to Christ, in spite of Satanic opposition (See Acts 13: 7-12).

**Fourth**, Paul became known as a *planter of churches*. It seems that, once the Spirit of God told the church to separate Paul and Barnabas for a special ministry, nearly everywhere he and his team went, they left a trail of churches. In fact, at the end of Acts 15, Paul and Barnabas discussed the possibility of taking a second “missionary” trip to visit churches that had been planted on their previous trip.

Later, in Acts 20, Paul reminds the elders from the church in Ephesus that he had spent a little more than three years praying, weeping and preaching the gospel while helping to establish the church in Ephesus.

**Fifth**, Paul was, without a doubt, a *persuasive debater*. In the sixth chapter of his first letter to the Corinthian church, Paul expressed himself in the following terms. While not actually “debating” a specific person, he surely does engage a debater’s style. Note the following verses:

Verse 1 - “*Dare* any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust...”

Verse 2 - “*Do you not know...*”

Verse 3 - “*Know ye not?*”

Verse 9 - “*Know ye not...*”

Verse 15 - “*Know ye not...*”

Verse 16 - “*What! Know ye not...*”

Verse 19 - “*What! Know ye not...*”

In the sixth chapter of Romans, Paul, in his unique way, deals out a large dose of one of the debater’s most needed weapons: logic. After making the statement in the preceding chapter that “where sin abounded grace did much more abound” he follows up in the next chapter with a logical question, “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?”

Allow me to paraphrase, “Since, where sin abounds grace much more abounds, does it not

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**DATES TO  
REMEMBER**

**APRIL 5-6, 2019**  
Calvary Baptist Church,  
Bloomsburg, PA

See [parbc.org](http://parbc.org) for coming details.



**Spring Conference - April 29-30, 2019**  
Crescentville Baptist Church, Philadelphia  
Hosts: Pastor Charles Dear and Congregation  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Mike McCubbins

**Fall Conference - September 16-18, 2019**  
Open Door Baptist Church, Greensburg  
Hosts: Pastor Joshua Franklin and Congregation

Future Dates for Conferences are on our website  
[parbc.org](http://parbc.org)

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## **Churches Searching for a Pastor**

**Springside Baptist Church – Distant**

**Bethel Baptist Church -- Erie**

**Garden Heights Baptist Church – Erie**

**Tidioute Baptist Church – Tidioute**

**Calvary Baptist Church – Union City**

**Worthington Baptist Church – Worthington**



## GLEAM: Recycling the Light

*By Dr. Merritt K. Hole, retired pastor of Maranatha Baptist Church, and*

*Mr. Dan White, overseer of the GLEAM ministry.*

It happens every quarter. The quarter ends and there is material left over. The same thing happens with VBS. But then what? You could stash it or you could trash it OR you could recycle it. GLEAM (Garlow Literature East Asia Ministry) exists to recycle the light.

GLEAM was known as the free literature ministry when it was a part of the missionary outreach of Dr. & Mrs. James Garlow, missionaries with Baptist Mid-Missions for 41 years in India. They recognized that the Christians there did not have access to Sunday School and Vacation Bible School materials, as well as Bibles and pastoral books, nor could they afford them if they were available. The Garlows enlisted friends and supporters and churches across the United States to send their left over Sunday School and Vacation Bible School materials to them. They would then distribute them to pastors, churches and Bible schools.

In April, 1992, the Maranatha Baptist Church of Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania, a small independent, fundamental Baptist church, dedicated a new building on their property in which the free literature ministry, soon to be GLEAM ministry could operate. When the Garlows moved to Seattle, Washington, and were no longer able to operate the ministry, the folks at Maranatha assumed oversight.

The GLEAM ministry takes new and used biblically sound Christian materials sent by churches from all over the United States and then distributes them to ministries in India, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand in East Asia as well as to Ghana, Nigeria, and Zambia in Africa. Quite often the church receiving the material then passes the material to other churches. Dr. Garlow used to say that the Word would spread as long as the paper endured.

Another vital aspect of the ministry is books, particularly Bibles and pastoral books. Pastors digitizing their libraries or retiring, should send their books to GLEAM allowing Pastors in these needy countries to benefit from them. Sadly books and Bibles are the most requested item from the field, and the least supplied items from our donors. A list of approved authors and Bible versions can be found at [mbgleam.org](http://mbgleam.org). Questions can also be sent to GLEAM in care of Maranatha Baptist Church, 25 Gaul Road, Sinking Spring, PA 19608, or call Tuesdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 610-670-1191, or e-mail using [gleam.ops@gmail.com](mailto:gleam.ops@gmail.com).

As items arrive at GLEAM, a crew of volunteers, carefully weighs, sorts, stamps (Free From GLEAM), and shelves the materials. Correspondence received from recipients pinpoints their needs. The crew then pulls appropriate items from

seem reasonable to conclude that if I want grace to *continue* to abound I must continue to live in sin?" His answer is an obvious and resounding, "No!"

There is also that classic example of Paul, the debater, as he stands on Mars Hill in Athens after seeing an altar dedicated to their "Unknown God." Beginning with the Creation account in Genesis, he expounded unto a mixed crowd this "unknown God" Who is the eternal God of heaven and Who is the supreme Ruler of the universe. Some listened respectfully while others mocked; much like people do today upon hearing a gospel message.

**Sixth**, he was a faithful *prayer warrior*. While there are numerous examples of this part of Paul's life just a few will suffice. In his letter to the Romans, he wrote, "God is my witness... that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my *prayers*..." (Romans 1:9). He opens the tenth chapter of that same epistle with these heartfelt words, "Brethren, my heart's desire and *prayer* to God for Israel is, that they might be saved" (10:1). To the Thessalonians he wrote, "We give thanks to God *always* for you all making mention of you in our *prayers*; remembering *without ceasing* your work of faith..." (I Thessalonians 1:2-3). In his second letter to his "dearly beloved son" [in the faith], Timothy, he said, "...without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my *prayers* night and day..." (II Timothy 1:3). Paul also mentions another friend who was evidently on his "daily prayer list," Philemon to whom he wrote, "I thank my God, making mention of thee *always in my prayers*" (Philemon 4).

**Seventh**, Saul the *persecutor* became Paul the *persecuted*! Even while he was still blind after seeing the great light on the road to Damascus, God revealed to Ananias that, while Saul was a "*chosen vessel unto me to bear my name before the Gentiles, I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.*" Even before Paul ever preached his first sermon or even gave his testimony of conversion, he, the *persecutor*, had been set aside for *persecution*. He who had mercilessly afflicted others would, himself, suffer merciless afflictions; once even being stoned and left for dead!

In II Corinthians 11, Paul lists some of the ways he experienced the things he suffered: "in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths, oft." He continues speaking of being beaten five times with 39 stripes, three times being beaten with rods, once being stoned...in perils of robbers, in perils by his own countrymen, as well as the heathen and false brethren. Paul truly learned from personal experience that simple, yet profound, truth he shared with Timothy when he said that "all that will live godly in Christ Jesus *shall* suffer persecution."

Indeed, Paul was a chosen vessel and how greatly he was used of God. While one must be careful not to set the Apostle Paul on some kind of a super-spiritual pedestal, it must be remembered that he was, like every child of God, a sinner saved by grace. That he was a spirit-filled man there can be no doubt. That he was also a man who wrestled with the flesh, there can likewise be no doubt. In spite of his weaknesses God, in His grace, developed his strengths and used him in a tremendous way. As a spiritual leader Christendom, Paul both challenged and encouraged other believers to follow him. "*Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ*" (I Corinthians 11:1). "*Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an example*" (Philippians 3:17). The believer today has the same Holy Spirit that Paul had and, therefore, has the same potential for Christian service through the working of the Holy Spirit. May God help each of us to, likewise, yield to the power and filling of the Holy Spirit for victory in daily life.

What had once been accepted and enjoyed by these impressionable frogs led to a disastrous end. Yes, that is a story about frogs, but I see a parallel and connection with some Christians, churches and colleges today. Some of the current trends and practices in Christian circles are alarming. What would never have been tolerated two or three generations ago are now not only being tolerated but embraced as THE thing to do. I remember thirty years ago an evangelist declaring that the churches were moving closer and closer to the world with each generation – more of a softening and tolerance and compromise of biblical truths and principles. I wonder what that evangelist would think looking at churches today.

In a very recent religious poll taken in America there were some alarming findings that support my concerns:

- Half of evangelicals believe God accepts the worship of all religions.
- Fifty-five percent of evangelicals believe that while everyone sins a little, most people are good by nature.
- Two-thirds of Americans agree that everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature.” (What ever happened to Romans 3:23?)
- Young people seem to be abandoning some important cultural and theological battles of the day.
- Some of the hot-button social issues --- gender identity, same-sex issues --- the millennials are out there, at one point eight percent ahead of the general population in a wrong answer on the issue of gender identity.

We know we are in the Laodicean age of the New Testament church just as the book of Revelation describes it in chapter 3:14-17: “*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked*”

One step of compromise is taken degree by digital degree and then another, and then another. Some Christians, churches and colleges are becoming less and less concerned about “standing fast in the faith” as Paul commands us to do over and over. Instead there are:

- Great hymns of the faith being abandoned for chants and new choes with a fleshly, worldly bent.
- No concern over Bible translations used – if any. Each one brings their own version to add to the confusion.
- Doctrinal truths/theology begins to disappear. Social concerns and practices start to take center stage.
- Pulpits and platforms are being replaced by darkened stages with multiple spot lights and flashing strobe lights for the “program”.
- Pianos and organs are removed or overshadowed by electric guitars and drum sets.
- The music is becoming more and more hard rock and roll.

- A mystic atmosphere is played out with fog machines in the room pushing our clouds of fog. Evangelism is cut short and “feeling good” is made a priority.

- The dress of the leaders and “congregation” becomes more casual and immodest.
- Worship is replaced with entertainment.
- The fear of God in worship and striving to be holy as He is holy has vanished.

All of this is a manipulated and planned effort of Satan as he turns the stove knob one digital degree hotter and then another digital degree hotter. We as believers and followers of our Savior Jesus Christ had better be very careful and keep asking the question: **Is the water getting warmer in our church???** We sure don't want to end up like a bunch of frogs!



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**GLEAM—Continued**

the shelves, and puts together a number of boxes to outfit a Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, or provide a Pastor with much needed books and Bibles. Once GLEAM has about a half ton of materials boxed and the shipping money in hand, a trucking company picks up the boxes and takes them to Ascendia, a contract mailer in Philadelphia. They ship GLEAM materials for \$3.00 per pound, thus each shipment costs about \$3,000, monies that must come from donors across the United States. Maranatha provides the heat, lights, building maintenance, and office and packing supplies for the ministry, but does not have the means to also provide all of the shipping money. In 2017 nearly 7,000 pounds were sent costing over \$19,000. Occasionally missionary pastors come to America and stop by GLEAM to choose materials from the shelves. GLEAM has three main prayers requests. First, please pray with us that the Lord will move people to send their used materials, Bibles, and books to GLEAM. Perhaps someone in your church could take responsibility for collecting and sending those materials. Second, please pray that churches catch the vision and support the shipping costs of GLEAM. Some churches send \$3.00 per pound with their materials, some use VBS offerings to help GLEAM, and some make GLEAM a part of their regular missionary budget giving. Third, please pray for shipment safety. Countries like India with their pro-Hindu leadership (seeking to eliminate all other faiths from the country), like Myanmar with their pro-Buddhism leadership, and many countries with their anti-America stands make getting mail through to contacts increasingly more difficult. Imagine your ministry without classroom materials or study books or your own Bible. Does not sound good at all, does it? Yet that is what workers face in places like India, and the like. You and GLEAM can team up to solve that problem by working together to recycle the Light!

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# The Grapevine:

*Taken from the Hufhand Report by Dr. Lawrence Hufhand*

**Did you know?** That unless you get out and vote right, the Democrats may very well take over both the House of Representatives, as well as the Senate. If this happens, both Pelosi and Schumer will make sure, “America is Never Great Again” and Pres. Trump’s agenda will come to a screeching halt. Our taxes will go up, small businesses will begin to fail, our whole economic boom will go into the toilet, The stock market will crash, Muslims, along with millions of other immigrants, will flood into our country, and immorality will dominate the American culture in epidemic proportions for years to come.

**Did you know?** That for the first time in 25 years, there were no shootings in New York City over last weekend. However, in Chicago, the most gun controlled city in America, there were 72 people killed or wounded by gun shots.

**Did you know?** That the State of Minnesota has mandated by law that Christian filmmakers have to make “same-sex marriage films or be fined and spend up to 90 days in prison.

**Did you know?** That CNN has banned the word, “mob” from being used in any of their news broadcasts?

**Did you know?** That President Trump was responsible for the release of Pastor Brunson from being held in prison in Turkey for over two years and President Obama never lifted a finger to get him out.

**Did you know?** That Justice Hugo Black was a member of the notorious, anti-semitic, anti-black, KKK for years and no one knew about it until after he was seated on the Bench of the Supreme Court and the Democrats never said a word about it....ever!

**Did you know?** That unless a person gets saved, there is nothing anyone can do to keep that person out of Hell, where he/she will suffer the torment of the damned forever.

**VOTE**



The woman of Thebes lived in one of the saddest and most sordid periods in Israel's history; the Judges era. During her lifetime, Israel was reaping the fruit of their disobedience to God. They had been told to drive out their enemies from the land and had not done so. God reminded of them what would happen because of this. "And ye shall make no league with the inhabitants of this land; ye shall throw down their altars: but ye have not obeyed my voice;...I will not drive them out from before you; but they shall be as thorns in your sides and their gods as snares unto you" (Judges 2:2,3). Israel, though, turned a deaf ear. Our "certain" woman may have also been a Baal worshiper or may not have known God at all, just like many today.

This time period was a classic example of Galatians 6:7 "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." And so...the Midianites came up and the Amalekites and the children of the east...against them" (6:3).

Gideon's son had self-proclaimed himself as Israel's king. He was ruthless and evil and had killed his 69 brothers and anyone who crossed him or challenged him. At first he was welcomed but eventually Israel became disenchanted with him and revolt broke out in Shechem. Abimelech took Shechem and had it burned to the ground, killing all its citizens, inhabitants and salting its ground. Next he took Migdal and killed 1,000 men and women. Thebes was next in Abimelech's path. Imagine the fear.

"But there was a strong tower within the city, and thither fled all the men and women, all they of the city, and shut it to them, and gat them up to the top of the tower. And Abimelech came unto the tower and fought against it, and went hard unto the door of the tower to burn it with fire" (9:51, 52).

There is no way to imagine the horror of that day. We can only wonder if anyone cried out to God for His help. All we know is that "...a certain woman cast a piece of millstone upon Abimelech's head and all to brake his skull" (9:53).

Whether she reacted out of fear or through divine guidance pitching her precious millstone, she aimed it at the enemy below and straight for Abimelech. However, the impact did not kill him and he saw that a woman had dropped the stone so he ordered his armourbearer to kill him so that no one could say "A woman slew him. And his young man thrust him through, and he died" (9:54).

"Reputation amongst men is sometimes valued more highly than innocence in the sight of God. Abimelech is anxious about the opinion of the world and cares nothing for the judgment of God. Don't we constantly see people more occupied in securing a fair appearance than in living a true life. After our death it matters nothing to us what men may say but everything turns on what God will do...An epitaph is no passport to heaven."

Our woman delivered her people of Abimelech and possibly enabled Israel to a return to the Lord. There was no one to record her name or hear of any accolades about her. It just proves that there are many unnamed people who have changed the course of history with just one act. It's powerful to realize that God knew all about her even before she was born. He had a purpose for her just as He does for each of us. No one is ordinary and unimportant.

I often wonder if she returned to a normal life and to grinding the daily grain for the bread her family needed. I suspect so but she must have done so with gratitude for life.

Do we have to know her name? Would that matter? What matters is that she was used of God. Every one of us can be certain of who we are in Christ and that our life matters. We can look forward to every day because we never know when and where God may use us. Is it possible that God will use you today in a way you never dreamed of. You can be certain that if He does, He has a purpose in it and for you.