

At the end of Acts 7, Stephen was stoned to death by members of the Jewish Sanhedrin for his faith in Christ, and Saul was there giving his approval. Saul then began to wreak havoc on the church in Jerusalem, "the city of peace", scattering the apostles and many disciples throughout Judea and Samaria. One of those disciples, Philip, went to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Jesus as the Messiah, and he saw all kinds of miracles and great crowds of people coming to faith.

Sometimes God will allow your place of peace, perhaps your home or workplace, where you feel secure and comfortable, to be disrupted. A 'Saul' of some sort shows up - a sickness, a betrayal, a downsizing, intense pressure etc. - and wreaks havoc on your peace. Stay in faith. 'Saul' is a setup for God to do something you have never seen, to push you to a new level. He already has a plan to use it to increase and promote you. Without the trauma, there would not be the transition.

Acts 8:3 "But Saul was ravaging the Church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison."