This Book Belongs to

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SAINT PAUL
the Apostle
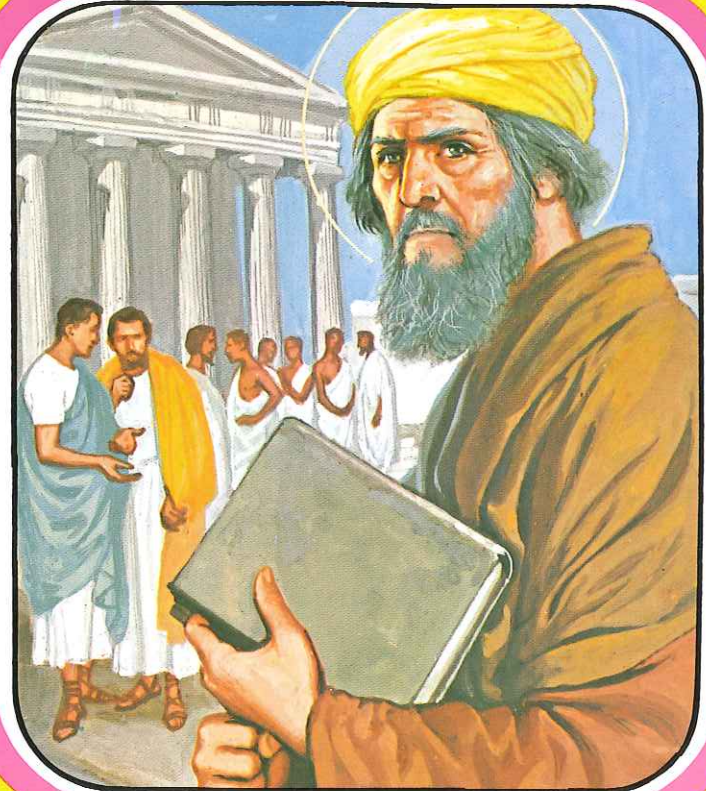
By REV. LAWRENCE G. LOVASIK, S.V.D.
Divine Word Missionary

SAUL IS PRESENT AT STEPHEN'S DEATH

AFTER the Holy Spirit came down on the Apostles and disciples, they were changed people. By their words and actions they drew many persons to Jesus.

To help in this work, the Apostles took on assistants. One of these was Stephen, who was filled with grace and wisdom and worked many signs among the people.

Some of the Jews grew to hate Stephen because he blamed them for failing to believe in the Son of God. A young man named Saul was one of them.

These men dragged Stephen outside the city and stoned him—even while he was praying for his murderers.

Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked to the sky above and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God's right hand. "Look!" he exclaimed, "I see an opening in the sky, and the Son of Man standing at God's right hand."

As they stoned him Stephen prayed, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And with that he died.

Saul held the cloaks of the executioners and approved their act. He was a Pharisee from Tarsus and regarded Christians as preaching against the law of Moses. He thought he was right in persecuting them.

JESUS APPEARS TO SAUL

PAUL of Tarsus became the most bitter enemy that Christians had. He obtained letters from the high priest to take soldiers to Damascus and bring back Christians to Jerusalem in chains.

As Saul and his group drew near to Damascus, a great light shone around them. Saul looked up but fell to the earth blinded. He then heard a voice saying: "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?"

"Who are You, Lord?" Saul asked. The voice answered: "I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting."

Those that were with Saul saw the light, but they did not hear the voice. Saul then spoke: "Lord, what do You want me to do?"

The voice answered: "Arise and go into the city, and there you will be told what to do.