**That was Then, This is Now (and Here’s Why)**

Acts 26

*Why do people choose to become Christians?*

***MCC AFFIRMATION #1:*** *The Bible is the Christian's final authority for faith and practice.*

***MCC AFFIRMATION #2:*** *The Lord Jesus Christ is the one-of-a-kind, divine Son of God, who died for my sins, was buried and raised again to life on the third day according to the Scriptures.*

***Paul’s***

* That was Then… (Here’s what I was….)
* This is Now… (Here’s what I am….)

*What is the most reasonable explanation*

*for Paul’s transformation?*

***Paul’s*** (Here’s why…)

1. Jesus appeared to me.
2. Scripture independently confirms my experience.
3. Common sense independently confirms my experience.
4. I am not crazy.

*Can I make a reasoned, coherent explanation of why I believe?*

1. You can know about these things.

***Paul’s***

 (You can be transformed, too!)

**Mark 8:36 (ESV)**

*For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?*