



## Meditation for January 27, 2021

### The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle [transferred]

<sup>15</sup>I asked, "Who are you, Lord?" [Acts 26:15]

For some understanding of the depth of Paul's conversion, I draw upon David Whyte's meditation on his poem "The Opening of Eyes." (Essentials, Many Rivers Press, 2020, pp. 68-69)

*Caught by a ray of light, something dramatically outlined in the outer world can find an equivalent deep down inside us, as we look on, illuminating an as yet un-encountered part of ourselves, just beginning to make itself known, bringing inner and outer horizons together in one moment . . . "The Opening of Eyes," looks at the way that at any crucial moment in our life, there is never a choice between left or right, this way or that; it is always about taking a way forward that hold the two creatively together.*

#### *The Opening of Eyes*

*That day I saw beneath dark clouds  
the passing light over the water  
and I heard the voice of the world speak out,  
I knew then, as I had before  
life is no passing memory of what has been  
nor the remaining pages in a great book  
waiting to be read.*

*It is in the opening of eyes long closed.  
It is the vision of far off things  
seen for the silence they hold.  
It is the heart after years  
of secret conversing  
speaking out loud in the clear air.*

*It is Moses in the desert  
fallen to his knees before the lit bush.  
It is the man throwing away his shoes  
as if to enter heaven  
and finding himself astonished,  
opened at last,  
fallen in love with solid ground.*