



**GULF SHORES**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

## *Sunday Morning Sermon* *by Ray Reynolds (5-27-18)*

Introduction: Have you ever wondered why men's shirts and women's shirts button differently? Sometimes we do things differently on purpose, other times accidentally, and even other times only because of tradition. Sometimes things are done repeatedly when really it needs to be changed, but for some reason we don't change it. Sometimes something can be wrong, but you don't realize that you're wrong because you don't know any better. What should we do? What does the Bible say about making excuses and/or responding to change? Let's study together...

Discussion:

### *I. Saul Just Didn't Know Any Better*

- Acts 7:54-8:4
- Galatians 1:13
- I Corinthians 15:9
- Acts 9:1-19

### *II. Saul Just Didn't Know He Was Wrong*

- Exodus 1:1-14
- I Timothy 1:13
- I Timothy 4:2
- I John 1:7-10

### *III. Saul Just Didn't Know How To Change*

- Judges 14:5
- Proverbs 20:6
- Genesis 3:1-12
- Acts 9:6
- Acts 22:16



Conclusion: We can't make excuses. We must be careful about what is commonly called the "Illusory Truth Effect." We equate repetition with truth. Marketers and politicians are masters of manipulating this cognitive bias and know how to use it for conversational hypnosis. If we find it difficult to change on things that are not important, what does that say about things that are of eternal importance? We serve a God that never changes. His Holy Word is simple, unchanging, and completely trustworthy. Don't give God your excuses... Give Him your heart!