

# ACTS 8 vs 1

The previous chapter ended with Stephen the first martyr who said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right of God. Then the enraged religious mob shouting out with a loud voice, and plugging their ears, ran up to him with one accord, and threw him out of the city, and stoned him and the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man, whose name was Saul – whom would be given the name Paul.

And they stoned Stephen, as he called up God, saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he knelt down, and shouted with his last breath, Lord, do not lay this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep

Saul breathing threats, appears in Jerusalem,

<sup>1</sup> **And Saul agreed with putting him to death.** And at that time there was severe persecution against the church in Jerusalem; and all were scattered throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

<sup>2</sup> And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and mourned greatly over him.

<sup>3</sup> **However, Saul, caused havoc to the church, as he entered house after house, and dragged off men and women putting them to prison.**

<sup>4</sup> So those who were scattered went on their way preaching the good news.

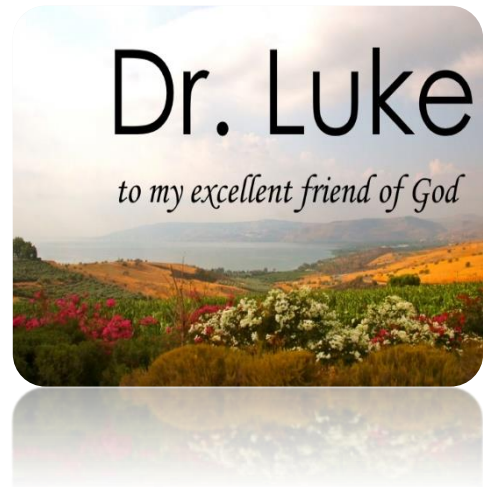
Philip in Samaria,

<sup>5</sup> **Then Philip went down to a city of Samaria, and preached Christ / the Messiah to them.**

<sup>6</sup> **And the crowds paid attention with one accord to those things Philip said, listening attentively and seeing the miracles that he did.**

<sup>7</sup> **For unclean spirits / poneros pneuma, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed: and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.**

<sup>8</sup> **So there was great joy in that city.**



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Simon the sorcerer,

**<sup>9</sup> But a man named Simon, who previously practiced sorcery / black magic in that city, and astounded many of the people of Samaria, while claiming himself to be somebody great:**

**<sup>10</sup> to whom they all paid attention, from the least of them to the greatest, saying, This man is called: the Great Power of God.**

**<sup>11</sup> They were attentive to him, because for a long time he mesmerized them with his sorceries.**

**<sup>12</sup> But when they believed Philip, as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus the Messiah, both men and women were baptized.**

**<sup>13</sup> Then even Simon himself believed: and when he was baptized, he stayed around Philip continuously, wondering and observing the miracles and signs that were done.**

**<sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the good news of God, they sent Peter and John to them:**

**<sup>15</sup> who, after they went down there, prayed for them, **that they would receive the Holy Spirit:****

**<sup>16</sup> (For as yet He had not come down on any of them: they only were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).**

**<sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**

**<sup>18</sup> When Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given, through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money,**

**<sup>19</sup> saying, Give me this power also, so that anyone I lay hands on may receive the Holy Spirit.**

**<sup>20</sup> But Peter said to him, May your money be destroyed with you, because you thought that the gift of God may be obtained with money.**

**<sup>21</sup> You have no part nor share in this matter: because your heart is not right before God.**

**<sup>22</sup> Therefore reconsider this wrongdoing of yours, and pray to God, that the intent of your heart may be forgiven you.**

**<sup>23</sup> For I perceive that you are poisoned by bitterness, and bond by iniquity.**

**<sup>24</sup> Then Simon replied and said, Please pray to the Lord for me, so that nothing you said will happen to me.**

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**25** And after they gave eye-witness and preached the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, and preached the good news in many villages of the Samaritans.

The Ethiopian Official,

**26** And an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, Arise, and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza - which is a desert road.



**27** So he got up and went: and indeed, there was a man from Ethiopia, a eunuch, and high official of Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of her entire treasury; he had come to worship in Jerusalem,

**28** and sitting in his chariot returning home, was reading Isaiah the prophet.

**29** Then the Spirit told Philip, Go and join that chariot.

**30** And Philip ran up to it, and heard him reading from the prophet Isaiah, and asked, do you understand what you are reading?

**31** And he said, How can I, except someone guides me? And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.

**32** Now the Scripture passage he was reading was this:

He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb is silent before its shearer, so He does not open His mouth:

**33** In His humiliation justice was denied Him: and who will declare His generation? for His life is taken from the earth.

**34** The eunuch replied to Philip, I ask you, who is the prophet saying this about -- himself, or some other man?

**35** Then Philip opened his mouth, and proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning at that same Scripture verse.

**36** And as they traveled on the road, they came to some water: and the eunuch said, Look, here is water; what hinders me from being baptized?

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<sup>37</sup> And Philip said, **If you believe with all your heart, you may.**

And he replied, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**

<sup>38</sup> Then he ordered the chariot to stop: and both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him / and notice it doesn't mention how much water was there, and if this foreigner was dunked forward or backward 1, 2, or 3 times; or if he was only sprinkled.

<sup>39</sup> And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord **caught away** Philip / in Greek; **harpazo** – translated to grab, to carry off, caught up, taken forcefully, captured.

**and the eunuch did not see him any more: and he went on his way rejoicing** / and within a century after this powerful man of faith returned to Ethiopia, the good news continued to spread along the entire eastern coast of Africa to nations and tribes as far south as what is known as South Africa today.

<sup>40</sup> But Philip was found at Azotus: as he traveled, preaching in all the cities, until he came to Caesarea / this is the **word** that describes what will happen when the dead in Christ are one day raised, and those who remain – looking for His appearing, suddenly are grabbed up, forever to be with the Lord in heaven .

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