

Philip's Preaching and the Spirit's Power

Sermon Outline: Sunday, February 11th, 2024

Text

Acts 8:1-25

I. The Church Scattered: (Acts 1:1-8)

Authentic Ministry Grows with Persecution

- A. Persecution and Dispersion
- B. Three positive effects of the martyrdom of Stephen:
The Message, The Mission, & Martyrdom...

Apply — *What appears to be bad may turn out to be good*

II. The Message Contrasted: (Acts 8:9-16)

Authentic Ministry Outshines Counterfeits

- A. Counterfeit and Authentic Power of God
- B. Receiving the Holy Spirit
 1. The validating witness of the Apostles
 2. Baptism of the Holy Spirit in Acts
 - a) Pentecost— Acts 2:1-4, 14-17
 - b) The Samaritans— Acts 8:15-17
 - c) The conversion of Saul— Acts 9:17
 - d) The family of Cornelius— Acts 10:44-46
 - e) The disciples of John— Acts 19:1-7
 3. Later understanding of baptism and conversion
 - a) One Spirit- 1 Corinthians 12:13
 - b) Belonging to Christ- Romans 8:9

Apply — *Don't limit the Spirit, but be filled with the Holy Spirit!*

III. The Power Sought for Selfish Gains: (Acts 8:18-25)

Authentic Ministry Calls Sin to Repentance

A. Simon's sin

1. Simon was a genuine convert:
 - a) He believed and was baptized
 - b) His response was simply immature and sinful
2. Simon was not a genuine convert:
 - a) Simon was responding in the flesh
 - b) "Simon Magus"

B. Peter's rebuke

IV. Final Application

God's plan is not deterred by persecution, counterfeits, or selfish individuals— Remain faithful!

... [they preached] in every Samaritan town they passed through on their return to Jerusalem. Acts 8:25 (MSG)