

ELEMENTS ESSENTIALS FOR SALVATION ACTS 8:26-39

Text:

Introduction:

Many leave church services unchanged. Such is the case and setting of this story.

An Ethiopian official had attended the Passover service and leaves the same way he had arrived.

Challenged but not changed. On his way home while crossing the desert he begins to read the Bible and the book of Isaiah chapter 53.

That brings us to our passage.

Notice:

1. THE PICTURE

God Sends Philip To Find A Hungry Heart. (26-27)

A. Philip had success in Samaria. (5-8)

(Acts 8:5-8) "Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. {6} And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. {7} For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. {8} And there was great joy in that city."

B. But with all that success Philip went to the desert to reach one man.

1. God is not only concerned about the crowd, but is also concerned for one soul.

Illustration:

Luke 15:3-7

(Luke 15:3-7) "And he spake this parable unto them, saying, {4} What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? {5} And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. {6} And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. {7} I say unto

you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

2. We can see the worth of just one soul.

C. God sent His only begotten Son to die for individual sinners.

Illustration:

The thief on the cross (Luke 23:39-43)

(Luke 23:39-43) "And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. {40} But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? {41} And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. {42} And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. {43} And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise."

- God Meets A Man Who Searches For Him With All His Heart. (28-29)

Here is a man who is searching.

The service did not end his search.

He takes his search to the Bible

- God's Servant Gets To The Heart Of The Matter (30-35)

Do you understand what you are reading?

- A question that met the man where he was.
- A question the offered help.

Philip was on the first deacon.

He gave himself to winning souls.

- Jesus Is The Answer To Every Troubled Heart.

He is the lamb slain for sinners

2. THE PRINCIPLES

(Essential Elements for Salvation)

A. Seeker

B. Sinner

C. Spirit

1. Sent Philip

2. Convicted the sinner

D. Scripture (v 35)

E. Saviour

E. Soul winner.

Other things learned from this story is:

1. God is interested in individuals.

2. True witnessing must be spirit-directed, and spirit-led. It must point to Christ, and it must be founded upon the Word of God. The Spirit of God and the Word of God always work together.

3. God knows the need in your heart.

4. He uses people to tell the truth concerning Himself, and the way of salvation.

5. We must be sensitive to the Lord, because there are people searching just like this man that we will be sent to.