

THE GOSPEL TO THE SAMARITANS ACTS 8:9-25

Text:

Introduction:

In this passage we see the spreading of Christianity and the growth of the church. God's ways are not our ways and we notice that His method for spreading the Gospel message was to allow persecution upon the church.

What Satan could not accomplish through destruction, he sought to accomplish through deception.

1. THE HOLD OF SATAN (VS. 9-11)

Acts 8:9-11

⁹ But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: ¹⁰ To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. ¹¹ And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

A. Upon Simon

Simon's power was Satanic and he was involved in the occult.

B. Upon the Samaritans

They gave him regard. Sadly today many people give credence to the charlatans of our day.

2. THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL (VS. 12-13)

Acts 8:12-13

¹² But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³ Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

A. To those that believe it is life giving.

B. To those that believe not it is damning

3. THE HELP OF THE APOSTLES (VS. 14-25)

Acts 8:14-25

¹⁴ Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: ¹⁵ Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: ¹⁶ (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) ¹⁷ Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. ¹⁸ And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, ¹⁹ Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. ²⁰ But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. ²¹ Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. ²² Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. ²³ For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and *in* the bond of iniquity. ²⁴ Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me. ²⁵ And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

A. To continue the Work of God

B. To condemn the Proudful