

# The Acts of the Apostles

## Part I: Peter and the Other Apostles Witness in Jerusalem and the Surrounding Areas (Acts 1-12)

### Session 7: Philip's Witness in Judea and Samaria (8:1b-40)

Videos of this Bible Study may be found on YouTube under "Joseph Polzin" or through this link: <https://bit.ly/2WWBV1t>

- I. What was Saul doing to the church? (8:3) What effect did this have? (8:1; cf. 11:19-20)
  - a. What was still taking place? (8:4) What does this say about the way God works despite persecution?
  - b. *Note: After Jerusalem, where did Jesus say his disciples would go in Acts 1:8?*
- II. What was the purpose of Philip's signs in v. 6?
- III. What was Simon claiming about himself in vv. 9-11? By what power did he perform his magic?
- IV. Again, what caused people to believe and be baptized in v. 12?
- V. What was the significance of Peter and John coming to Samaria in v. 14?
- VI. What did it mean that the Holy Spirit "had not yet fallen on any of them" (v. 16)?
  - a. Did this mean that they didn't receive the Holy Spirit in baptism? Read 1 Corinthians 12:3 and explain why not.
  - b. What does the Holy Spirit's arrival in v. 17 mean then? (Note: Simon "sees" the Spirit in v. 18)

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- VII. What does Simon attempt to do in vv. 18-19? (Note: "Simony" refers to the practice of buying or selling church offices or authority, and comes from Acts 8.)
- Did this mean Simon's faith and baptism in v. 13 wasn't valid? What was more likely the case for a new believer?
  - What was Peter's response to him in vv. 20-23?
  - Did Simon repent in v. 24?
- VIII. What did God allow Peter and John to do in v. 25? Why is this significant? (cf. Luke 9:54-55)
- IX. How does Philip's next assignment in vv. 26, 29 differ than his previous? (Hint: to whom and how many was he sent?)
- What does this say about who God values? What impact does that have on us?
  - What does v. 27 tell us about the Ethiopian Eunuch and his faith?
- X. How does the passage from Isaiah 53 (vv.32-33) point to Christ? (cf. v.35)
- XI. What naturally follows Philip's instruction about Jesus? (v. 36)
- XII. Cf. Acts 21:8. Philip seems to have settled in Caesarea and would become known as an "evangelist."