

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

HOW TO LIVE VICTORIOUS IN A HOSTILE WORLD

RLJ-1034

JOHN S. TORELL

JUNE 18, 2006

PART 4: THE HONEYMOON IS OVER

THE HONEYMOON IS OVER

- ❑ Once the Jewish leadership had murdered Stephen, they were like an animal that had tasted blood and now wanted more of it! They didn't try to be nice anymore; instead they went on a killing spree using brute force against the Church of Jesus Christ. **Acts 8:1-3**
- ❑ Most likely at this time the Christians in Jerusalem could not understand why God would allow such persecution, but as we look back in history, we can see that the early believers did not want to leave Jerusalem and the great fellowship in and around the Temple. Jesus told them to spread out into the whole world but it took persecution to fulfill His commandment. **Acts 8:4; Matthew 28:18-20**
- ❑ Sometimes it takes a tragedy to move a Christian in the direction that God wants him to go. **Genesis 45:1-8**

THE POWER OF GOD MANIFESTED

- ❑ We now come to the ministry of Philip, who started as a deacon, but ended up as an evangelist. **Acts 8:5-8**
- ❑ The Holy Spirit manifested the resurrection power through Philip, the power was so great that the local shaman was impressed, convicted of his sins and saved. **verses 9-13**
- ❑ For some reason, Philip did not pray for the baptism of the Holy Spirit upon the new converts and when the apostles in Jerusalem heard about the move of God in Samaria, Peter and John were dispatched. **verses 14-17**
- ❑ The spirit of greed fell on Simon as he tried to buy this special power from the apostles. He did not understand three things: the Holy Spirit is God, He is in control people and He cannot be sold. There have been many ministers over the centuries who have tried to sell the anointing of God to gullible people. Any person who tries to merchandise the Holy Spirit is a charlatan. **verses 18-24**
- ❑ On their way back to Jerusalem, Peter and John preached to the Samaritans whom they had previously despised. Samaritans were detested because they were a mixed breed of the Ten Northern Tribes and Canaanites. **verse 25**

OBEYING GOD

- ❑ Philip was in the midst of a great awakening, with people coming to Christ in droves, and a great many miracles from God. The Lord had a job lined up for Philip to witness to one man in particular, whom in his turn would take the Gospel to Ethiopia and Africa. **verse 26**



- ❑ Philip did not argue with the angel even though he knew there was no one living in the desert. **verses 27-28**
- ❑ It takes great faith to step out and obey without knowing in advance what is going to happen. This is what Abraham did and this is how God wants you and me to live in our daily lives. **Genesis 12:1-5; Hebrews 11:1-10**
- ❑ This man from Ethiopia was not traveling alone in a chariot but was traveling in an armed convoy. Protecting him were horsemen, whose assignment was to intercept anyone approaching the convoy and kill them before they could harm this official minister from Ethiopia. When the Holy Spirit told Philip to run up to the chariot, Philip took a risk of being killed. Again, faith was working in Philip. **verses 29-30**
- ❑ The Ethiopian had never seen Philip before but the Holy Spirit moved upon him to have Philip sit down with him and give further details about the scriptures. **verses 31-35**
- ❑ The result was that the eunuch believed in Jesus and was baptized. **verses 36-38**
- ❑ The Church of Christ that was planted in Ethiopia by this one man is still there and never came under the bondage of the Roman Catholicism.
- ❑ Once the mission from God was completed, Philip was supernaturally moved and the eunuch saw him no more. **verses 39-40**
- ❑ The Bible tells us that Philip settled in Caesarea, where he married and had four daughters. **Acts 21:8-9**

Do you have an ear to hear with?