

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

BACK TO THE BOOK OF ACTS (BBA)

RLJ-1132

JOHN S. TORELL

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PART 22: VICTORY IN SAMARIA

PREACHING THE GOSPEL IN SAMARIA

Phillip was one of the seven deacons appointed by the apostles. He was driven out from Jerusalem went to the city of Samaria and started to preach the Gospel to the people living there. **Acts 8:5**

Even though the Samaritans had mixed the Old Testament teaching with a lot of heathen idolatry, when they heard the message that Jesus was the Messiah, they responded in mass to the message. **verse 6**

The power of the Gospel was displayed and it brought great joy to the people who had been in bondage to Satan. **verses 7-8**

SIMON THE SHAMAN

Simon was a powerful witch who controlled the people in Samaria with his occult powers. But the powers of Satan could not be compared to the power of the Holy Spirit. The result was that Simon accepted Jesus as his Messiah and was baptized in water. **verses 9-13**

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

It is very interesting to see that Phillip preached a full Gospel, people responded and were saved and baptized in water, but they had not been baptized in the Holy Spirit. The power Jesus promised was missing and the apostles took care of this situation. **verses 14-17**

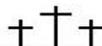
THE POWER OF GOD IS NOT TO BE MERCHANDIZED

Simon was saved, but there were still demons left in his body. Greed took over when he saw how the power was transferred from the apostles to the believers in Christ. Having lost his income from sorcery, he tried to make a living selling the Holy Ghost power. **verses 18-19**

The apostle Peter discerned the demonic influence in Simon and pronounced judgment on him. **verses 20-24**

Peter did not excuse Simon and because he had demonic problems. Believers in Christ are held responsible for their acts, even if they are caused by demons, because the believer is allowing the demons to use and abuse them. Romans 12:1

Simon was smart enough to recognize his need for repentance. **verse 24**



8341 Fair Oaks Blvd, Suite B, Carmichael, CA 95608

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 166 Sheridan, CA 95681

Phone: (916) 944-3724 • Toll Free: (888) 708-3232 • Fax: (530) 633-2918 • www.eaac.org

Once Peter and John finished their mission in the city of Samaria, they began their journey back to Jerusalem and stopped in many places to preach the Gospel. **verse 25**

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS MESSAGE?

1. If we are not obeying God and in His will, expect discipline from Him. He will do whatever it takes to line up the believers in Christ. **Hebrews 12:5-15**
2. Nations will be destroyed when God's people and the leadership abandon Him! **Amos 4:1-13**
3. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a must for all Christians. **John 7:37-39**
4. Demons cannot be tolerated. **James 3:14-16**

DO YOU REALLY HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?