

The False Conversion of Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8:9-24) Part I

Last week: we looked at Acts 8:1b-8 'Christ proclaimed in Samaria'

The great persecution: church scattered throughout Judah, Samaria

Evangelism: won by one: those scattered went everywhere preaching the word

Philip and Pentecost revisited

Much Joy

I. Simon the Sorcerer's Claims (8:9-11)

Simon: a sorcerer in Samaria astonished the people claiming to be some one great

All the people from least to the greatest said this man is the great power of God

They heeded him because he astonished them with his sorcery (vv10-11)

II. But the Gospel: Christ and the Kingdom of God preached (8:12,13)

Samaritans believed Philip: He preached God's Kingdom & Jesus Christ

Simon also believed & was baptized seeing the miracles and being amazed

Simon "continued/ followed Philip everywhere

He was greatly astonished by the miracles he saw

III. The Sin of Simon the Sorcerer (8: 18-24)

Simon's sin revealed (18,19) He wanted to buy the gift of the Holy Spirit

Peter's Response (vv.20,21) 'your money perish with you, your heart is not right

Diagnosing Simon's Sin and Applying Luke's Lesson

- .. Simon, the almost Christian: Substance of his faith – a non-saving faith
- o. The object of Simon's faith
- o. Simon's faith was frivolous characterized only by amazement
- l. The root of the matter: Simon's corrupt and crooked heart

We Must not Miss the Application of this Warning for Ourselves