



Welcome  
Family  
&  
Friends

# Under Persecution the Gospel Thrives (Acts 8) – Part 2

**(Studies on the book of Acts)**

# Review of previous lesson:

- We saw how persecution arose against the church and how that persecution lead to the spread of the Gospel.
- We saw how Paul began to persecute the church.
- We saw how the Gospel reached Samaria.

# In this study:

- We will see how the Power of the Holy Spirit cannot be bought.
- We will study about the conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch.
- We will also see how the Power of the Holy Spirit was transferred from the Apostles to fellow Christians.

# The Power of the Holy Spirit is not for sale! (continued)

**Acts 8:9 – 25**

Acts 8:13 (ESV) *(13 Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.)*

Mark 16:16 (ESV) (*16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.*)

Mark 16:17 – 18 (ESV) *(17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; 18 they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.)*)



John 20:30 – 31 (ESV) (30  
*Now Jesus did many other  
signs in the presence of the  
disciples, which are not  
written in this book; 31 but  
these are written so that you  
may believe that Jesus is the  
Christ, the Son of God, and  
that by believing you may  
have life in his name.)*

*Acts 8:14 – 16 (ESV) (14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)*

# Notice some Important Details:

- Being baptized into Jesus Christ is not the same thing as the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- These were baptized Christians who had not received the Power of the Holy Spirit.
- Also noticed that Philip was not able to transfer the Power of the Holy Spirit to these Christians, even though he had been given this power.

Acts 8:17 (ESV) (*17 Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.*)

There are only two ways in which one could receive the Power of the Holy Spirit:

- Baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1 – 4; Acts 10:44 – 47)
- Laying on of the Apostles Hands

# The process of termination of the gifts given by the Power of the Holy Spirit:

- There were 9 supernatural gifts given by the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:4 – 11)
- The power to perform these gifts were given by the laying on of only the Apostles' hands. (Acts 8:18 – 19)
- These gifts were to be given by Holy Spirit only for a temporary period during the life of the Apostles. (1 Corinthians 13:8 – 12)

Acts 8:18 – 19 (ESV) *(18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.")*

1 Timothy 6:10 (ESV) (*10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.*)



Mark 10:21 – 23 (ESV) (21 *And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”* 22 *Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.* 23 *And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”*)

Acts 8:20 – 23 (ESV) (20 *But Peter said to him, “May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! 21 You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.”*)

Genesis 4:6 – 7 (ESV) (*6 The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”*)

James 1:14 – 15 (ESV) (*14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.*)

1 Corinthians 9:27 (ESV) (27 *But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.*)

Acts 8:24 (ESV) (24 *And Simon answered, "Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."*)

1 John 1:9 – 10 (ESV) *(9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.)*

*Acts 8:25 (ESV) (25 Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.)*



In our next study, we will  
go onto the rest of  
chapter 8!