

THE GOSPEL MUST BE APPLIED PERSONALLY

Acts 8:26-40

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: The message of the Gospel is essential to the salvation of the lost therefore it is essential that believers are knowledgeable of the Gospel in order to share it personally with someone. Jesus cannot be separated from His teachings and believers must not try to separate anything from the Gospel. There was a man who was ready to hear the whole Gospel so God sent Philip to go to him and explain it clearly and plainly.

I. GOD'S WAYS ARE FULL OF WISDOM, GOODNESS AND PERFECTION (vv26-28)

1. God's ways rule the world and is beyond any person's ability to grasp or understand but His ways are always wise and good.
 - All things go by God's schedule and with God, nothing is late or early.
2. God sent Philip (via an angel) to a lonely, deserted road that was seldom traveled to meet a man who was ready to hear the full truth of the Gospel.
 - The man was from another country, a Jewish proselyte, living as best he could for God with the limited knowledge he had.
 - While in Jerusalem he had heard about Jesus and the seed was planted in his heart and mind.
 - God sent Philip to meet this man on a lonely, isolated road and when God's time was right, the two met.

II. GOD'S PURPOSE AND WAY OF SALVATION WILL BE FULFILLED

1. Before the world began God made a way for lost mankind to be saved.
 - Every person who will believe, will in God's time and power, be presented the Gospel.
 - God bypassed the Scribes and Pharisees, descendants of Abraham and sent Philip to meet a non-Jew who was from another country, a black Ethiopian, a total stranger to the Gospel.
2. God's Grace is available to every person and works the same way.

III. PHILIP AND THE EUNUCH SHOW TRUE EVANGELISM IN PRACTICE (vv29-35)

1. God sent someone to witness to the man who was ready to be told.
 - God chose Philip to be the messenger of grace to the Ethiopian eunuch.
 - God chose a man who was full of the Holy Spirit, blameless character and committed to Christ.
 - He was willing to witness to the one person for he wanted only to serve the Lord and it mattered not where, when or how God used him.
2. God sent Philip with the Gospel message.
 - Every person God sends to witness is sent with the same message Philip told the eunuch.
 - Philip told the eunuch about Jesus Christ.
 - If God sends YOU to witness, it is to be about Jesus Christ.
3. God sent Philip to meet with a sinner, who was ready to hear the full gospel message.
 - The Ethiopian was saved because his heart was ready to hear the truth about Jesus Christ.
 - He was saved because he was doing as best he could with the knowledge he had and he was willing to be shown, taught the truth of the Gospel.

4. God's grace brought him to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

IV. THE ROADSIDE MEETING IS AN EXAMPLE OF GOD'S SAVING GRACE (vv36-37)

1. True, saving faith is more than just a notion in the head, it is a heart-knowledge, heart-persuasion and heart commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. The eunuch declared that he believed with "ALL HIS HEART" that Jesus Christ was the Son of God.
3. All this happened on a lonely country road in a little "buggy."

V. THE IMPORTANCE OF A BELIEVER BEING BAPTIZED IS SHOWN (vv36-39)

1. Clearly baptism is a test of submission and obedience to Christ as Lord with those who profess to believe.
 - It is the open confession of faith in Christ.
 - Baptism is by immersion only. The whole body plunged under the water.
2. Upon being baptized, the eunuch went on his way rejoicing and was now living by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and Philip went on his way too, witnessing and preaching as he was led by the Holy Spirit.

CONCLUSION:

1. The gospel message must be shared for the lost to hear it and in faith believe it.
2. Every believer is a potential witness for the Lord and should always be ready to tell others about the Lord Jesus Christ and how to be saved.
3. Upon believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, that person should be baptized (totally immersed) and therefore publicly identify with the Lord Jesus.
4. There are countless more who need to be told the true Gospel message and they won't all be in some Church hearing a sermon, they need to be told personally as was this Ethiopian eunuch.
5. Have YOU ever told anybody personally the Gospel message?