



**Dr. Jack Scott**

**Study of Acts:  
Chapters 8-9**

**We're glad you're here!**





## **Persecution of the church (8:1-4)**

- **Saul actively persecute the church, aking Christians to prison because of their faith (8:2).**
- **The Christians were scattered abroad because of this persecution, but they continued to “preach the word” (8:4).**



## **Philip's mission to Samaria (8:5-13)**

- Samaritans were considered half-breed Jews. They kept the law and its customs, but they chose Mount Gerazim as their worship center and considered only the Pentateuch as scripture.**
- Philip preached Christ to the Samaritans. He also performed many miracles, particularly acts of healing (8:6-7).**





## **Philip's mission to Samaria (8:5-13)**

- **Philip's preaching led to many converts: "They were baptized both men and women" (8:12).**
- **Among the converts was Simon, a magician and sorcerer, who was greatly admired by many in his city (8:9-11).**





## **Visit to Samaria by Peter and John (8:14-25)**

- **Peter and John laid their hands on the Christians in Samaria in order that they would receive the Holy Spirit (8:17).**
- **Simon offered Peter and John money, saying, “Give me also this power, that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit” (8:18-19).**



## **Visit to Samaria by Peter and John (8:14-25)**

- Peter sternly rebuked Simon for his suggestion that he could receive the gift of God with money! He called upon Simon to repent for he was in “the gall of bitterness and the bond of iniquity” (8:20-24).**
- Simon answered, “Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me” (8:24).**
- As Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, they preached the gospel to many Samaritan villages (8:25).**



## **Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch (8:26-40)**

- **Philip was enjoined by an angel to go to a road between Jerusalem and Gaza. He then was told to join himself to a chariot of the eunuch (8:26-29).**
- **The eunuch was the treasurer of the Ethiopian queen, Candace. He was returning to his home after worshipping in Jerusalem (8:27).**



## **Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch (8:26-40)**

- **The eunuch was reading from Isaiah 53:7-8 (Acts 8:32-33):**

**As a sheep led to the slaughter  
Or a lamb before his shearer is dumb,  
So he opens not his mouth.  
In his humiliation justice was denied  
him.**

**Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken up from the earth.**



## **The baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch (8:34-39)**

- **Beginning with this scripture, Philip “told him the good news of Jesus” (8:35).**
- **Later the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What is to prevent my being baptized?” (8:36).**
- **“And they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.” (8:38)**



## **The conversion of Saul (9:1-9)**

- **Saul was on his way to Damascus, having authority from the high priest to arrest Christians there and bring them back to Jerusalem for trial and imprisonment (9:1-2).**
- **“Suddenly, a light from heaven flashed about him. He heard a voice saying, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?’ And he said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.’” (9:3-5)**



## **Directions given to Saul (9:6-9)**

- Saul is instructed to go into Damascus where he will be told what to do. In the meantime he is without sight and is without food or water for three days (9:6-9).**
- Ananias, a disciple, is directed to go to Saul in a vision. Ananias hesitates because of Saul's reputation as being a persecutor of Christians. The Lord assures Ananias that Saul will carry his name to the Gentiles and to the Israelites Ananias goes to Saul, restores his sight, and baptizes him (9:9-19).**



## **Saul's activities after baptism (9:19-25)**

- **Saul joined himself to the disciples in Damascus, who were amazed at the change that had occurred (9:19-21).**
- **Saul preached to the Jews, proving that Jesus was the Christ. Opposition arose, and the Jews plotted to kill him. "His disciples took him by night and let him down over the wall, lowering him in a basket." (9:22-25)**



## **Saul in Jerusalem (9:26-30)**

- When Saul comes to Jerusalem, the disciples were skeptical because of his previous history of persecuting Christians. However, Barnabas takes Saul to the apostles and assures them that Saul had been converted on the Damascus road and then had preached boldly in Damascus (9:26-27).**
- Saul once again preaches boldly and again stirs up opposition by the Jews. They desire to kill him. So the disciples bring him down to Caesarea and send him off to Tarsus, his home city (9:28-30).**



## **Peter's activities (9:32-43)**

- In Peter's travels, he comes to the city of Lydda. Here he heals Aeneas, a man who had been bedridden for eight years (9:32-35).**
- Peter then travels to Joppa where he stays in the home of Simon the tanner (9:43).**
- He is brought to an upper room where Tabitha, also known as Dorcas, lay dead (9:39).**



## **Peter's activities (9:32-43)**

- Dorcas was deeply loved; she was full of good works and acts of charity. Widows were weeping and holding up garments that Dorcas had made (9:36, 39).**
- Peter asked everyone to leave the room. He knelt and prayed. He then said, "Tabitha, rise." She became alive, and he presented her to the saints (9:40-41).**
- "It became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord." (9:42)**









**Sunday  
Mornings  
10:00am**

**You're always welcome!**