

Preacher: Pastor Lawrence Johnson

Text: Acts 8

2/15/26

I. Divine Instruction and Obedience (vv. 26-28)

- **A Call to the Desert:** An angel instructs Philip to leave a fruitful ministry for a lonely, dangerous, desert road.
- **A Prepared Heart:** Philip obeys without question, demonstrating immediate obedience to God's direction.
- **The Divine Appointment:** The Ethiopian, a high-ranking official, is reading scripture while returning from worshipping in Jerusalem.

II. The Engagement and Exposition (vv. 29-35)

- **Holy Spirit Initiative:** The Spirit instructs Philip to approach the chariot.
- **Bridging the Gap:** Philip initiates conversation by asking if the man understands the scripture (Isaiah 53).
- **An Open Invitation:** The eunuch invites Philip to explain, showing a teachable spirit.
- **The Gospel Message:** Starting from the text, Philip explains that Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophesied suffering servant.

III. The Conversion and Continuation (vv. 36-40)

- **A Request for Baptism:** Upon seeing water, the eunuch requests baptism, signifying his acceptance of Jesus.
- **Inclusive Grace:** A marginalized outsider (Ethiopian/eunuch) is fully accepted into God's family.
- **Supernatural Transport:** The Spirit takes Philip away to Azotus, where he continues preaching.
- **Rejoicing Believer:** The eunuch continues his journey with joy, likely initiating the spread of Christianity in Ethiopia.

Key Themes

- **Obedience to the Spirit:** Following God's guidance regardless of the circumstances.
- **Divine Appointments:** God orchestrates meetings for evangelism.
- **Proclaiming Christ:** Using Scripture to reveal Jesus as the savior.
- **Inclusivity:** The gospel is for everyone, regardless of status or background.