

Sunday February 8, 2026

Sierra Vista Community Church, Las Cruces, NM

The Spread Of The Gospel

Acts 8:4-25

Julian Serrano

Acts 8:4-25

Phillip In Samaria

4} therefore they were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.

5} Phillip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the messiah to them.

6} The crowds were all paying attention to what Phillip said, as they listened and saw the signs he was performing.

7} For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice came out of many who were possessed, and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.

8} So, there was a great joy in the city.

The Response Of Simon

9} A man named Simon had previously practiced sorcery in that city and amazed the Samaritan people, while claiming to be somebody great.

10} They all paid attention to him, from the least of them to the greatest, and they said, "This man is the great power of God".

11} They were all attentive to him because he had amazed them with his sorceries for a long time.

12} But when they believed Phillip, as he proclaimed the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

13} Even Simon himself believed. And after he was baptized, he followed Phillip everywhere and was amazed as he observed the signs and the great miracles that were being performed.

Simon's Sin

14} When the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.

15} After they went down there, they prayed for them so that the Samaritans might receive the Holy Spirit he had not yet come down on any of them.

16} {They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.}

17} Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

18} When Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on the apostle's hands, he offered them money.

19} saying, "give me this power also so that anyone I lay hands on may receive the Holy Spirit."

20} But Peter told him, " May your silver be destroyed with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money"!

21} You have no part or share in this matter, because your heart is not right before God.

22} Therefore, repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord, that, if possible, your heart's intent may be forgiven.

23} For I see you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by wickedness.

24} Pray to the Lord for me, Simon replied, "so that nothing you have said may happen to me."

Christian VS Magician

- Phillip has the fire of the Holy Spirit and spreading it all over Samaria. He was performing. Great miracles were being performed. He was consumed in the Holy Spirit!
 - Evil spirits were being cast out.
 - Screaming spirits were crying out loud
 - Paralyzed people were walking.
 - Lameness were healed
- A man named Simon had been amazing Samaritans for sometime. The city were aware of his sorcery.
- The not so great and the greatest of greatest spoke of him as “ the Great One. They listened to him because he had astounded them with magic.

❖ But people believed in in Phillips message.

✓ Goodness concerning the Kingdom of God.

✓ The message of Jesus Christ,

✓ The baptism of the Holy Spirit,

✓ They sent word to Peter and John and as they arrived they noticed that the Holy Spirit had not come upon them. Peter and John laid hands on them, And they received the Holy Spirit,

- Simon saw that they were getting the Holy Spirit by the laying of hands, His evil spirit was realized. Their power was greater than his.
 - Simon saw this and he wanted to buy this power. He offered money, silver as some scriptures state.
 - He wanted power! He wanted the attention,

- ❖ May your money be destroyed with you for thinking Gods gifts can be bought.
- ❖ Your heart is not right.
 - Pray to the Lord for me Simon cried, that these terrible things may not happen to me.

Sorcery is an abomination in Gods eyes. Motivated by pride and lust. Simon proved this by trying to buy this gift, which freely given if you believe. FAITH!

1st Timothy 6:10 The love of money is the root of all evil. But why do we fall for the worldly materials.

2 Corinthians 5:7

For we live by believing and not by sight.
For we walk by faith and not by sight.

We should now operate according to the new kingdom we have entered in by believing in and receiving in God. We do this by learning about His kingdom. Leave the past. New laws! Reprogramed!

What is Faith?

Hebrews 11:1

Faith is the confidence that we hope for will actually happen. It gives us assurance about things we can NOT see.

It is impossible to please God without faith!

So What Is The Law Of Faith?

Romans 3:27

Can we boast then that we have done anything to be accepted by God?
NO because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on FAITH. So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

The practices of the world will never please God.

Driving Faith and Speaking Faith

It is two components. Believing and Speaking 2 Corinthians 5:7

2 Corinthians 4:13

But we having the same spirit of faith according as it is written, I believed therefore I have spoken. We also believe and therefore speak.

Lets not fall for Simons (worlds gimmicks).

Believe on the one who has your, mine, ours best interest.