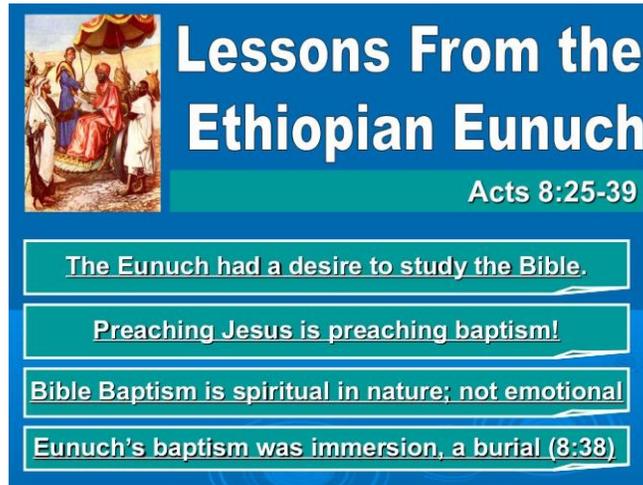


SUMMER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2017

THEME – CALLING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

UNIT III – RESPONDING TO THE MASTER’S CALL AS A CHRISTIAN IN GOD’S NEW TESTAMENT COMMUNITY

“THE CALL AND RESULTS OF REAL PREACHING”



Lessons From the Ethiopian Eunuch
Acts 8:25-39

The Eunuch had a desire to study the Bible.

Preaching Jesus is preaching baptism!

Bible Baptism is spiritual in nature; not emotional

Eunuch’s baptism was immersion, a burial (8:38)

Sunday School Lesson No. XI – August 13, 2017

Lesson Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III ~ Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Acts 8:26-39

Required Reading: Acts 8:25-40

Memory Text: Acts 8:35, *“Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.”*

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Libronix Electronic Library; Precepts for Living (UMI), Word Search 9 and 10 Electronic Library; MacArthur Study Bible; Thirty Amazing People in the Bible by Dr. David Jeremiah, The Book of Acts by E. Gillentine; The Book of Acts in 24 Lessons by E. L. Bynum

INTRODUCTION

The world is full of ideas about how to do everything. Some things seem successful and others a total failure. But how does the world become right side up? This can only be done when the world hears the true Gospel of Jesus Christ! Our lesson continues with Philip’s obedience to the divine plan of God. He had left Jerusalem after the persecutions of Saul and went down to Samaria where God used him mightily to preach, teach and illustrate the power of the Gospel. (Read Acts 8:1-8). A citywide revival broke forth and great joy was come to this city. This was the first results of real preaching, the saving of a multitude.

But God is not just interested in the multitudes; real preaching must reach even the lives of solitary individuals. So this week, we will examine God pulling Philip away from the masses to meet a soul on the dusty highways of Palestine. He is given the duty of sharing the Gospel with a descendant of Ham, an Ethiopian of great authority who read the Old Testament book of Isaiah and came to a crossroad in his life as he read chapter 53. It is here that we will discover **“The Call and Results of Real Preaching.”**

Our Anticipated Power Points... The results of real preaching are evident through:

- **Preparation.** Acts 8:26
- **Population.** Acts 8:27-30a
- **Presentation.** Acts 8:30b-35
- **Personalization.** Acts 8:36-39

LESSON OUTLINE EXPOSITION

I. The Preparation of Real Preaching. Acts 8:26

Romans 10:14-15 says, *“How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”* God prepared a real faithful preacher to deliver the Gospel to the Ethiopian going home. He chose Philip, a proven vessel, as recorded in Acts 6:3; 8:5-8.

Beloved, real preaching must be done by those who are led by God’s awesome will. God spoke to Philip by an angel to prepare him for what was about to transpire. Thank God for preparation, and remember, God never uses lazy, unprepared people to do anything of worth.

II. Real Preaching Reaches the Population. Acts 8:27-30a

When God prepares a vessel for service, He then directs the vessel to meet the population or simply, people! Dr. D. James Kennedy declares that reaching people evangelistically is basically a three-step program – “Introduction, Interaction and Invitation.” Paul wrote in Romans 1:16 that the Gospel is, *“the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.”* Real preaching of Jesus Christ is for people. Note:

- Philip arose and went as he was sent. vs. 27a
- Philip met a great man of authority, a eunuch who had the oversight of a great treasure, returning from worship and who was perplexed. We know not this man’s name, but only that he was a eunuch. This could mean he had been emasculated as many were for special service. Even though Jewish law prohibited the eunuch from Temple services, God was opening the door of grace to this man and his people. (Deuteronomy 23:1; Romans 1:16). The Holy Spirit led Philip to this man as he read from Isaiah 53. (Read John 16:13-14).

III. Real Preaching’s Presentation. Acts 8:30b-35

After Philip was led to the eunuch by the Holy Spirit, Philip inquired if he understood what he was reading from Isaiah 53:7-8. This passage is a part of the story we know as dealing with the Messiah’s suffering, but to the Jew this seemed totally illogical, that Messiah should suffer. The most orthodox Jews of this day question the fact of a suffering Messiah. Yet we who are Christians receive it because of our faith in Jesus Christ.

The eunuch invited Philip into the chariot and from the Old Testament teaching of Isaiah 53, he elucidated the passage, expressing as Stephen and Paul that Jesus Christ is the Messiah of Israel and Saviour of all who place their believing faith in Him. (The words of the eunuch in verse 31 still ring clear today, *“...How can I, except some man should guide me?”* and Romans 10:14, *“...and how shall they hear without a preacher?”*)

IV. The Personalization of Real Preaching. Acts 8:36-39

Acts 26:28-30 speaks of how close King Agrippa was to receiving the Gospel, but did not personalize real preaching. But this was not so with Philip’s candidate. The preaching of Philip had to have included *“believe and be baptized,”* for the eunuch when he saw, inquired of himself being baptized. Upon which Philip responded only if he totally believed in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Upon confirmation of the eunuch’s personalization of Jesus Christ as his Lord and Saviour, was he allowed to be baptized. The eunuch was full of joy and adoration and God caught Philip away to continue his practice of real preaching.

CLOSING

The results of real preaching are the totally transformed lives of those who believe and receive Jesus Christ! Beloved, what is the result of real preaching in your life today?

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LOOKING AHEAD:

August 20, 2017

Acts 9:10-20

Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway where Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School lesson.