

"The Power of the Gospel" Acts 8:25-40 ◆ Pastor Jim Lennon January 12, 2025

Introduction – For the Gospel to spread beyond Jerusalem, God not only used persecution to thrust believers to go to other cultures, He also had to help them overcome many racial and culture barriers that existed.

I. The Power of the Gospel's Reach.

- A. Philip took the Gospel to Samaria, a major cultural barrier for Jews.
- B. Christianity is inclusive of all races and cultures.
- C. Christianity began in Jerusalem, and today it is the only world-wide religion.
- D. The account of the Ethiopian's conversion is a mark of the Gospel's powerful reach.
 - 1. The Ethiopian was a foreigner.
 - 2. The Ethiopian was a man of great power and wealth.
 - 3. The Ethiopian was a eunuch.
- E. What this tells us about God's heart.

II. The Power of the Gospel's Message.

- A. God was preparing the Ethiopian to hear the Gospel.
 - 1. He's reading the Bible.
 - 2. He's reading Isaiah.

- B. Philip is invited into his chariot to help him understand what he is reading.
- C. They were being brought together because of the Gospel of Jesus.
- D. The powerful message of the Gospel is believing in Jesus' substitutionary atonement.
- E. What is necessary to understand about the Gospel to receive salvation?
 - 1. Who –
 - 2. Ourselves -
 - 3. Believe –

III. The Power of the Gospel's Hope.

- A. The Ethiopian was unhappy, unfulfilled and empty in his soul.
- B. But reading Isaiah gave him hope.
- C. And understanding and believing Isiaah 53's fulfillment in Jesus gave him the gift of eternal life.

Conclusion.