

ACTS

CHAPTER 8:9-24

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM 174

TITLE:

“ GOD THE BAPTIST”

THEME:

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and “**you shall be witnesses to Me**” in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth.**“

Great Time at Zion Nat'l. Park

The Vacation Came to an End

*better than I had expected, **the weather**, **the tubing** down the Virgin River.*

A Great Ending *sleeping under the stars.*

Talking About Endings;

I received a letter this week from Parowan, Utah, a dear sister there gets our taped messages... a Mormon had told her 'I don't care what Jesus says, what the Bible says, God will never send 8 million sincere Mormons to Hell. That's True! God will send no one to hell. We're responsible for being in hell.... missing it by 18 inches!

Billy Sunday the Professional *baseball player/evangelist was preaching on the warnings of hell and in the middle of his message a lady jumped up and said 'Enough about hell, I don't believe in it and besides, I don't have any teeth to gnash with', so Billy Sunday replied, 'Madam, for you, teeth will be provided.'*

We need to remember that Satan wears all kinds of clothing and willfully assumes any position. If being a lion roaming about seeking whom he may devour doesn't work, then he'll take the form of a deceiving serpent.

And Religious Garb is one of his Favorites

“ If you can't beat 'em join 'em “

It's Time we be Honest about things.
ask ourselves.... 'Who are we... Really' ?

Jesus Warned Us

- *The Church would be like a mustard seed that grew radically...*
- *The Church would be like a loaf of bread that would have leavened...*
- *The Church would be like a field of wheat that an enemy planted **tares***

Tares, a *look-a-like* wheat, A grain that looks just like the real thing.
as it grows like the real thing and matures like the real thing, but by harvest time it ripens and within itself a toxin forms, a poison and the tare is pulled from the earth and burned.

Matthew 13:24

Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; **:25** "but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way. **:26** "But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop, then the tares also appeared. **:27** "So the servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?' **:28** "He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' The servants said to him, 'Do you want us then to go and gather them up?' **:29** "But he said, 'No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. **:30** 'Let both grow together until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn.

Matthew 3:11

"I indeed baptize you with water... but He who is coming after me is mightier than I... He will baptize you with the **Holy Spirit** and **fire**.

1.) The Baptism of a False Believer vv. 9-13

Verse 9

The '**BUT**' of verse 9 reflects something of opposition

“...and there was great JOY in that city”

Verse 10

The Word **Power** (dunamis) is directed towards divine power, ‘The Mighty One’ a title given to God.

Who is this Guy ?

The Historic Simon

Simon Magus, Simon the Magic. In fact, according to historic church teaching, Simon was known as

- *The first recorded as apostate believer*
- *The first to receive the Title ‘Antichrist’*
- *Responsible for popularizing Gnosticism*
- *That he was responsible for perverting church doctrine in Rome.*
- *It’s understood that many revered Simon as a god.*

Verse 12

But when they **believed** Philip as he preached the things concerning “the kingdom of God” and “the **name** of Jesus Christ”, both men and women were baptized.

believed GRK pisteuo (pist-yoo'-o);
to have faith or respect for. *to give credit*;
to give authenticity to.

Simon was Upstaged,

Well, Jesus had said “you shall receive (not take) “**power**”

You can Believe in Jesus in the wrong way.

Historically (everyone does that, the most documented life in all of human history)

Archaeologically (The life and teachings of Jesus are confirmed by science)

Theologically (Jesus fulfilled all the ancient prophecies written beforehand)

Jesus Himself warned about "ADD-ON" intentions

John 2:23-24

...many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did.

John 6

Jesus said to those who were following Him
'that did so because he fed them free food'

James 2:19

You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe-- and tremble!

The similarities of Philip and Simon are striking

- Both of them performed miracles (*divinely / demonically*)
- Both of them were supernaturally empowered (*divinely / demonically*)
- Both of them Boasted of the source of their powers. *from God / from self*

The Bible Warns Us About 'The End' of Things

Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. **22** "Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' **23** "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me.....

He said there would be weeping and gnashing of teeth....

John 4:48

Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.

Matthew 24:24

"For false Christ's and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

Verse 13

Believed GRK Pisteuo

2.) The Baptism of the True Believer vv. 14-17

for nearly 500 years there had been deep separation between the Jerusalem Hebrews and Samaritan Hebrews. The coming of the apostles to Samaria would #1 show the Samaritans that Christianity is greater than any divisions #2 the apostles would carry the news back to Jerusalem that God was indeed working in the lives of others who didn't attend 'their church'

Fallen GRK epipto (ep-ee-pip'-to)
to embrace or to lay over, to cover.

The Old Testament Picture

2 Kings 4:34

Elisha went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands; and he stretched himself out on the child, and the flesh of the child became warm.

Verse 15, 16 & 17

Notice the Contrast...

The Baptism **INTO** the body

John 14:16-18

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide *with you* for ever; :17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he *dwelleth with you*, and shall be *in you*. :18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

vs.
The Baptism OF (falling) UPON

Luke 11:9

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find: knock, and it will be opened to you. Luke 11:10 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. :11 "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? :12 "Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? :13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Water Baptism announces that you have chosen Christ (symbol)

Spirit Baptism announces that Christ has chosen you

3.) The Baptism of Fire (Judgment) vv. 18-24

he perceives that this is the gimmick

'I'll give good money for that'

He devalued the Power of God as something that could be a learnable, buyable, and do-able trick.

This is where the word "simony" *has come from. The practice of buying and selling positions or privileges in the church.*

Having a weak view of Holy Things

John 2:16

..."Take these things away! Do not make
My Father's house a house of merchandise!"

merchandise

GRK *emporion (em--ee'-ah)*

to emporium, to traffic in goods for profit,
to promote things. to make employment of it.

Making Money isn't bad, using God or the temple of God to make money is an abomination to God.

2 Peter 2:3

...through covetousness shall they
with deceptive (with formulated) words; make *merchandise* (profit) of you:

Verse 19

his approach to Christianity was self-promoting.

The very thing he wanted to bestow upon others, he himself had failed to receive... his vision was skewed.

Verse 20

The Curse from Peter *is better understood as 'you and your money are going to hell'*
it's like the story that Charles Spurgeon tells of his friend who witnessed the sinking of an ocean liner while the deck hand seized the opportunity to rob the cabins of money...

- 1.) vv.20 "your money **perish** with you"
- 2.) vv.20 **thought**, to plot or to scheme
- 3.) vv.21 You have neither **Part** nor **Portion**
- 4.) vv.22 **Repent** therefore
- 5.) vv.22 may be **forgiven**

1 Timothy 6:10

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

Billy Graham

has said... "Be Aware of the three 'G's'

Glory, Girls & Gain

Ministry & Money don't Mix

The More important money is the less ministry-minded you become

The Church is to be a channel of resources. *The church is not to amass financial security & independence, its security is in Christ.*

if you look at money as dollars, as power, as persuasion, as a way to get what you desire, then you too are in the bond of iniquity... You need to see money/dollars as tools. Tools to build the lives of people, tools to spread the Gospel, tools to repair marriages, tools to glorify God.

This Weeks U.S.News & World Report Magazine
A Message to Ministers

1 Corinthians 10:31

Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. :32 Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, :33 just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

1 Timothy 6:6

Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.

Verse 23

Are you moral, are you faithful, are you honest, are you religious, are you good, have you been baptized.....

Your heart better be right today...

Hebrews 10:31 It is a fearful thing to fall into
the hands of the living God.

A Heavy Thought

He had been baptized for the 'remission' of sins but it didn't take, why? because he never 'remitted' his sins. he came forward never intending to give up his adultery, his lying, his cheating, his stealing. He came looking for an add-on deal to his life.

Deuteronomy 29:18

"so that there may not be among you man or woman or family or tribe, whose heart turns away today from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations, and that there may not be among you a root bearing bitterness which is the fruit of idolatry (envy, jealousy, bitterness)

Hebrews 12:15

looking diligently lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;

Verse 24

'You Pray For Me'

Divine Conversion says I will call upon the Lord

He would **ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY** for his sin

The AIDS epidemic is now a pandemic

a 1992 report by secretary sullivan & CDC in Atlanta stated that it is very possible that 1/250 Americans are infected with HIV virus.

and that 1/100 males are HIV positive. statistically the adult population of this church, 10 men would have the death sentence in them.

Give me a way to do my thing, just so I don't get in trouble.

Let's Practice Safe-Sin

by putting on ~~Condom~~ Conversion Secretly.

Just keep me from any repercussions

Your Computer can have a virus now from fellowshiping with another computer, even Practicing safe Data Transmission

Focus on the Family stated that a reporter asked the manufacturer of condoms 'if he was using his own product, would he have sex with a girl who was known to have AIDS' - his reply was
'no-way'

10/10 of us have S.I.N.

Matthew 3:11-12

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit ***and fire***. Matthew 3:12 "His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; ***but He will burn up the 'chaff' with unquenchable fire.***"