

# The Ethiopian Eunuch

## Acts 8:26-40




# The Ethiopian Eunuch

The 3000 at Pentecost – Acts 2:1-41

The 5000 on Solomon's Porch – Acts 3:1-4:4

The multitudes in Samaria – Acts 8:5-13




# The Ethiopian Eunuch

**PHILIP IS SENT TO THE EUNUCH – Acts 8:26-29**

An angel of the Lord tells Philip to go toward Gaza – Acts 8:26

On the way there is a man sitting in his chariot – Acts 8:27-28

The Spirit tells Philip to overtake the chariot – Acts 8:29




# The Ethiopian Eunuch

**PHILIP PREACHES JESUS TO HIM – Acts 8:30-35**

**THE EUNUCH ASKS PHILIP TO HELP HIM – Acts 8:31-34**

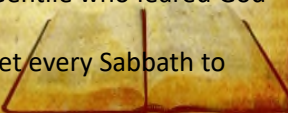
**THE EUNUCH IS BAPTIZED – Acts 8:36-40**



# The Ethiopian Eunuch

**SOME OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING PROSPECTS FOR THE GOSPEL**


- The Ethiopian eunuch was a very religious man
- The 3000 at Pentecost, who had traveled to observe the feast day
- Paul, the Pharisee zealous for the Law
- Cornelius, the devout Gentile who feared God and prayed always
- Lydia, a woman who met every Sabbath to pray with others



# The Ethiopian Eunuch

**FROM THIS WE CAN LEARN THE FOLLOWING:**

- Just because one is religious does not mean he is saved!
- Religious people are often good prospects for the gospel!
- Those who are truly seeking God's will, will one day have an opportunity to hear the gospel and obey it!



## The Ethiopian Eunuch

Another observation ...

### CONCERNING WHAT IT MEANS TO PREACH JESUS

Isaiah's "quotation" ([Isaiah 52:13-53:11](#))

- How Jesus died for our sins – cf. [1 Corinthians 15:1-3](#)
- How Jesus has been exalted by God – cf. [Acts 2:36](#); [3:13](#); [5:30-31](#)

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

Another observation ...

### CONCERNING WHAT IT MEANS TO PREACH JESUS

From the Eunuch's "question" ([Acts 8:36](#)) – *"And as they went on the way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch saith, Behold, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"*

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

- The eunuch heard the word. [Romans 10:17](#)
- The eunuch was a religious man. [Acts 8:27](#)
- The eunuch had a fear of God, a respect for God, and a penitent heart.
- Philip told the eunuch that he may be baptized. [Acts 8:37](#)
- However, we also see that his belief and confession still weren't enough. The salvation process was still incomplete. Look at [Acts 8:38](#)

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

Perhaps because Philip told him ...

- What the Lord had said – [Mark 16:15-16](#)
- The purpose of baptism, as expressed by Peter and Paul – [Acts 2:38](#); [Romans 6:3-4](#); [1 Peter 3:21](#)
- The immediacy of baptism
- Why did the eunuch asked to be baptized right then ("*See, here is water.*")? [Acts 8:36](#)
- It is "for the remission of sins" – [Acts 2:38](#)
- It is to have one's sins "washed away" – [Acts 22:16](#)
- It is an appeal for a clear conscience – [1 Peter 3:21](#)

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

From Philip's "qualification" ([Acts 8:37](#)), we know it requires explaining:

- The necessity of faith in Jesus
- One must believe in Jesus as the Son of God – [John 8:24](#); [20:30-31](#)
- Without faith, God won't do His work in our baptism – cf. [Colossians 2:12](#)
- The necessity of whole-heartedness in our faith
- God has always required whole-heartedness – cf. [Matthew 22:37](#)
- Without it, even those saved are in danger of falling away – cf. [Hebrews 3:12-14](#)

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

Another observation ...

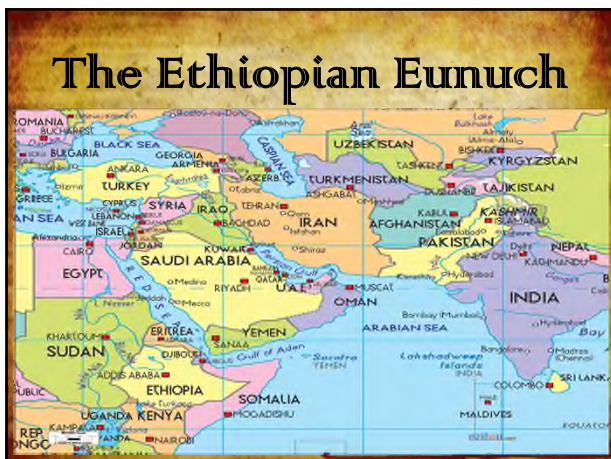
### CONCERNING BAPTISM

We see that baptism involves water

- "... both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water" – [Acts 8:38](#)
- "... he baptized him" – [Acts 8:38](#)
- "... they came up out of the water" – [Acts 8:39](#)
- We see the same truth expressed by Peter – cf. [Acts 10:47-48](#)
- We see that baptism involves a burial in water
- Both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water – [Acts 8:38](#)



## The Ethiopian Eunuch



## The Ethiopian Eunuch

If sprinkling satisfies the meaning of baptism, it seems strange that Philip would need to go down into the water.

Why get wet, when all he needed to do was get a handful of water?

Paul describes baptism as a “burial” –  
cf. **Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12**

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

We see that baptism is NOT a public confession of one's faith.  
Some say that the purpose of baptism is to publicly confess one's faith in Christ.  
If the purpose of baptism is to publicly confess one's faith ...  
Why did Philip baptize the eunuch?  
There was no one else around to witness the baptism.  
They were all alone in the desert.  
Why didn't Philip answer the eunuch's question differently?  
He wanted to know what would hinder him from being baptized.

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

But the purpose of baptism is such that it can be done ...

In public or in private

With thousands present, or with just the one doing the baptizing

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

### CONCLUSION

With the conversion of “**The Ethiopian Eunuch**,” we are impressed with the simplicity of salvation.  
When the gospel of Jesus is truly preached ...  
The death of Jesus for our sins will be stressed.  
The importance of baptism as commanded by Jesus will be mentioned as well.  
The purpose of baptism will be properly understood, knowing that one can be baptized in private just as well as in public.  
The necessity for a whole-hearted faith in Jesus will be emphasized, otherwise one simply gets wet in baptism!

## The Ethiopian Eunuch

### CONCLUSION

Was your conversion anything like that of “**The Ethiopian Eunuch**”? When someone “**preached Jesus**” to you, were you compelled to ask:

“**See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?**” - **Acts 8:36**