
SERMON OUTLINE

Hope for the Carnal Christian

Acts 8:4-25

- I. God gives salvation to those in Samaria who believe (Acts 8:4-13).
 - A. Philip performs miracles and preaches the gospel of Christ to many Samaritans (4-8).
 - B. A sorcerer named Simon believed and was baptized along with many others (9-13).
- II. God gives the Holy Spirit to those in Samaria who believe (Acts 8:14-17).
 - A. Peter and John to Samaria are sent by the apostles in Jerusalem (14).
 - B. Peter and John pray for the Samaritan believers to receive the Holy Spirit – and they do (15-17).
 - Note: In the early days of the church the Holy Spirit was given when the apostles were present (Acts 10: 44-46; 19:4-7).
- III. God confronts Simon who wanted to buy the apostles spiritual abilities (Acts 8:18-25).
 - A. Simon tries to buy the ability to impart the Spirit (18).
 - B. Peter urged Simon to repent to experience God's forgiveness instead of discipline (19-23).
 - C. Simon seems to repent and Peter and John continue to preach the gospel (24-25).

The Believer's Struggle with Sin

- True believers sometimes still live according to their "carnal" sinful nature (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Galatians 6:1).
- Even godly believers struggle continually with sin (Romans 7:18-25).
- Victory over sin is possible through the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:1-14).
- God disciplines believers for sin (Hebrews 12:4-11; James 5:19-20).

Open Door Bible Church 12-30-12
