



Acts 8:18-25

Philip reaches into Samaria Pt 3 The foolishness of a young believer.

Simon the Sorcerer:

1. _____ Cult leader, false teacher, religious entrepreneur (Acts 8:9-12)
2. Was _____ in response to Philip's message, then was _____ as a believer with many others who also believed. (Acts 8:13)
3. Was "astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw". (Acts 8:13)

In today's passage, Simon (the former sorcerer):

1. _____ what Peter and John could do by the power of the Holy Spirit (vs 18)
2. He got _____ and wanted to do the same things himself (vs 19)
3. Offered to _____ the power. (vs 19)
4. Was _____ by Peter severely. (vs 20-23)
5. _____ (vs 24)

Simon's issues were:

1. He brought into his _____ faith his _____ practices
 - a. Tricks were his means of gaining success
 - b. Money was his measure of success and trading commodity
 - c. Shortcuts
2. He was being _____ rather than learning
3. He wanted to do too _____, too _____.

Simon's lesson to us: Wait for God to direct your paths, learn from those whom God has chosen to be near and/or above you, learn how God operates before you run ahead, and when you are wrong – REPENT.

Big Picture lessons to learn from Philip's visit to Samaria:

1. No _____ of people are beyond the love or reach of God.
2. No _____ person is unreachable, even if they are a false teacher cult leader.
3. God's directives are given with _____.
4. Some of God's directives _____ be followed whether we like it or not.
5. There is _____ a lesson to be learned.
 - a. Apostles learned that Jesus really did mean the Samaritans.
 - b. The **gospel message translates** into other cultures very well.
 - c. Hardship and difficulty are often the **means** by which God gets His best results.
6. Sometimes the _____ guy, or the _____ work, inspires the big shots. (vs 25)
 - a. Peter and John joined Philip in preaching in his Samaritan city.
 - b. Peter and John preached in many Samaritan villages as they returned home.

What can I do to be more like Peter, John, and Philip?

1. _____ the gospel of Jesus, just like we received it from the scriptures, to anyone who will listen anywhere we are allowed – sometimes where we are not.
2. Don't let bad things that happen to other's around you, stop you from _____ in God's will and in God's provision.
 - a. Stephen was killed by stoning.
 - b. Persecution broke out against the Christians.
 - c. Lots and lots of the new church members leaving left a big void.
3. Give God _____ to work – He has a plan.
 - a. Example: Samaritan Christians not receiving the holy spirit right away.