

HOW REVIVAL ACTS

Acts 8:18-25



**FIRED UP**

Acts 8:18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

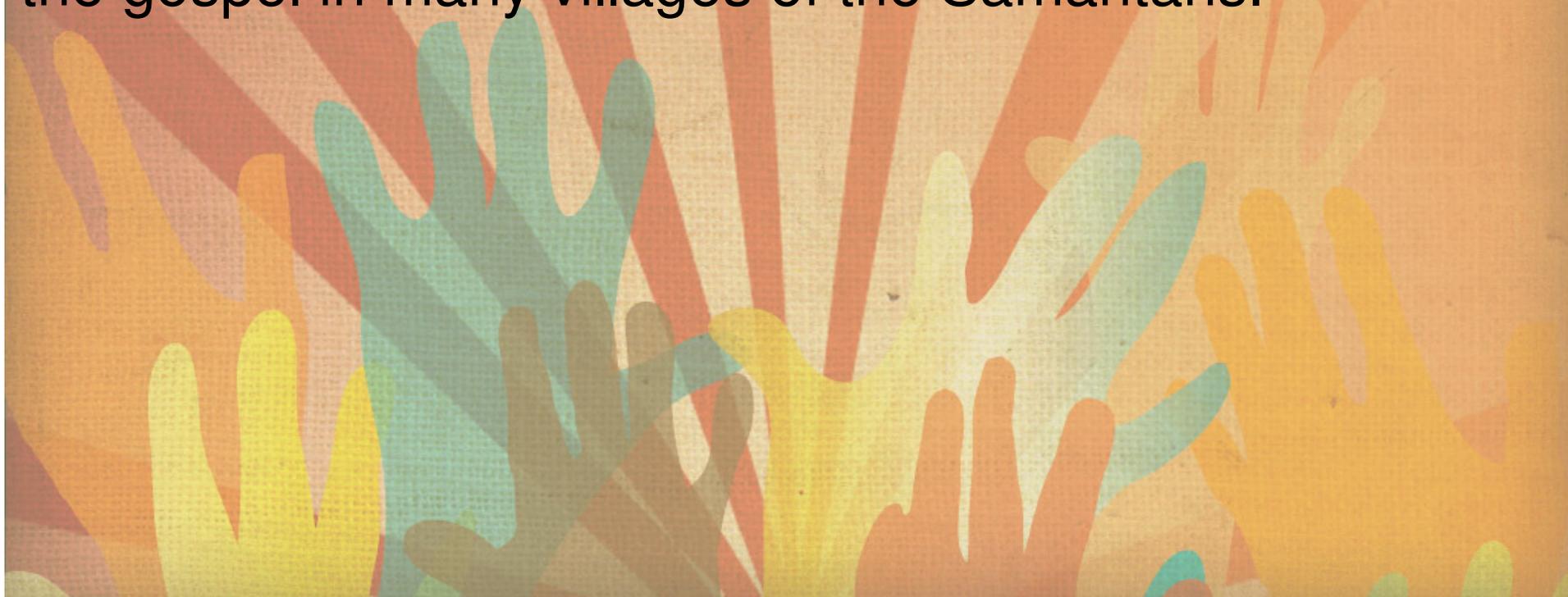
21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and *in* the bond of iniquity.

24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.



## Review

### I. THE ORGANIZATION

- A. The Person, 1:1-2
- B. The Proofs, 1:3
- C. The Pastor, 1:4a
- D. The Preparation, 1:4b
- E. The Power, 1:5
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- G. The Performance, 1:8

### II. THE OPERATION

- A. Watching the Ascension of the Savior, 1:9-11
- B. Waiting for Empowering of the Spirit, 1:12-26

### III. THE OPERATIVES: THE FOUNDING EMPHASIS – SIMON, 2:1-5:42

- A. Testimony, 2:1-47
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## IV. THE OPERATIVES: THE FORWARDING EMPHASIS – STEPHEN, 6:1-12:25

A. The First Ministers, 6:1-7

B. The First Martyr, 6:8-7:60

C. The First Missionary, 8:1-40

1. A New Foe: Emphasis – Persecuted Christians, 8:1-4

a. The Magnitude of the Persecution, 8:1-4

b. The Message via the Persecution, 8:1, 4 with 1:8

2. A New Field: Emphasis – Preaching Christ, 8:5-25

a. Philip's Fruit in the Gospel, 8:5-8

(1) Revival, 8:5-7

(2) Rejoicing, 8:8

b. Philip's Fame in the Gospel, 8:9-14

(1) Simon Magnus Hears the News, 8:9-13

(a) His Deceptions, 8:9

i. His Method, 8:9a

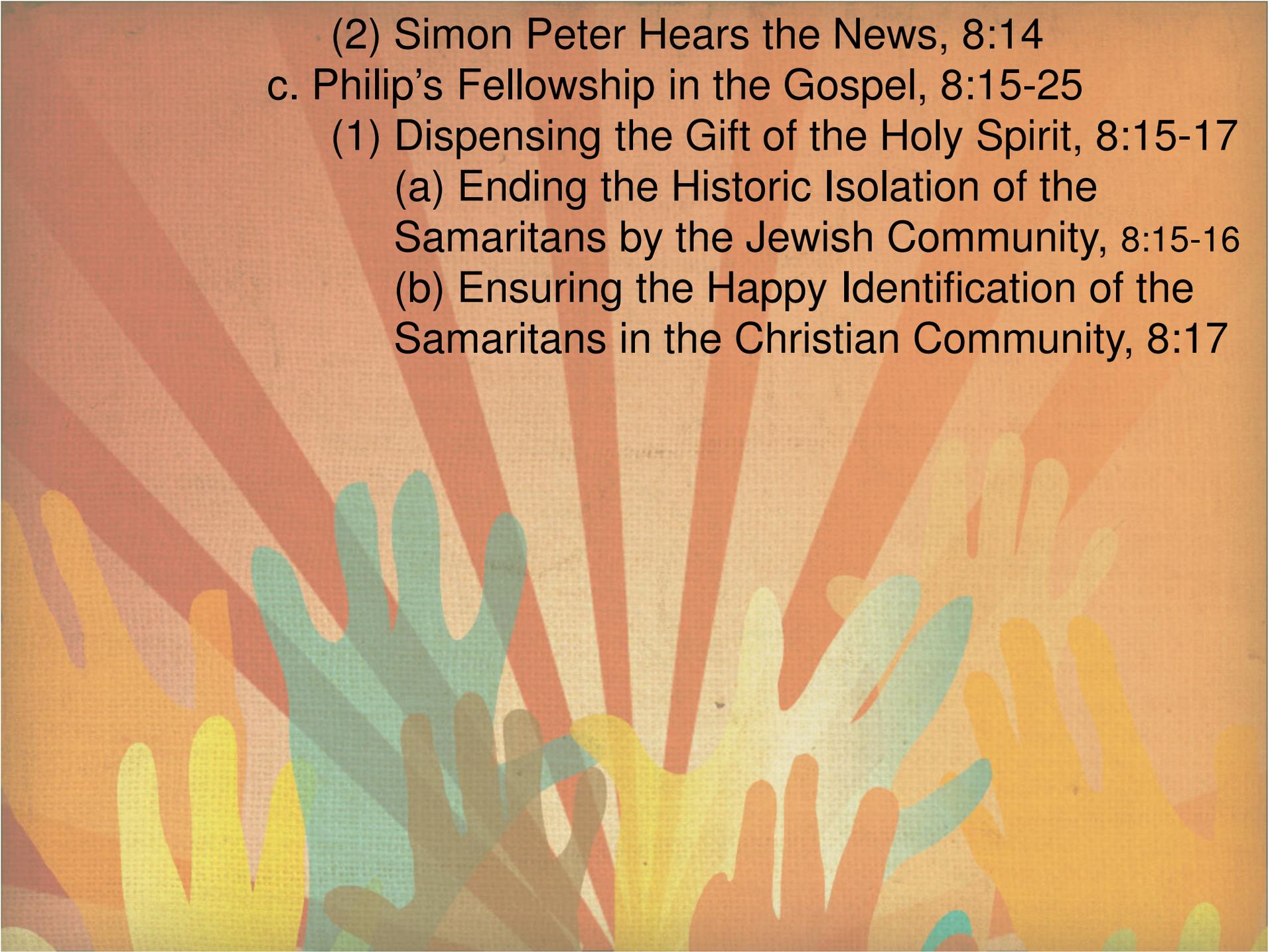
ii. His Motive, 8:9b

(b) His Disciples, 8:10-12

i. Why They Followed Him, 8:10-11

ii. Why They Forsook Him. 8:12

(c) His Decision, 8:13

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- The background of the slide features a warm, textured orange-brown color. Overlaid on this are several stylized, overlapping hands in shades of yellow, orange, and teal, reaching upwards. From behind the hands, several thick, vertical rays of light in shades of orange and red extend towards the top of the frame, creating a sense of divine light or inspiration.
- (2) Simon Peter Hears the News, 8:14
  - c. Philip's Fellowship in the Gospel, 8:15-25
    - (1) Dispensing the Gift of the Holy Spirit, 8:15-17
      - (a) Ending the Historic Isolation of the Samaritans by the Jewish Community, 8:15-16
      - (b) Ensuring the Happy Identification of the Samaritans in the Christian Community, 8:17

As we continue looking at the Book of Acts, we need to be reminded of the scenario of the first church:

- The apostles had spent three years of preparation with the Lord Jesus Christ in order to serve Him for His glory.
- They were unclear about the establishing of His Kingdom.
- The Lord had ascended back to heaven.
- The Holy Spirit was their primary source of leadership.
- The organization for their actions was the first church.
- They had no complete Bible like we do, today.
- The focus of their lives was living what they believed.
- The title of the book is “The Acts of the Apostles” NOT the beliefs of the Apostles.
- We are looking at *what they did*, in relation to what they believed.
- The key to the effectiveness of what they did was that their lives were empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- We are observing how the Holy Spirit moved in their lives.

## (2) Detecting the Guilt of Simon Magus, 8:18-24

### (a) Simon's Conclusions, 8:18-19

#### i. What He Discerned, 8:18a

“And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given...”

### **simony**

noun

1. The making of profit out of sacred things.
2. The sin of buying or selling ecclesiastical preferments, benefices, etc.

<http://www.dictionary.com/browse/simony?s=t>

ii. What He Decided, 8:18b “...he offered them money,”

During the days of the Borgias, the RCC sold bishoprics and cardinalates. Like the selling of indulgences, and the mass for the dead (paying to pray loved ones out of purgatory) the RCC unwittingly revealed their true colors. So do the “prosperity preachers” of our day!

iii. What He Desired, 8:19

Acts 8:19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

- Note the discernment of Peter in verses 20-23.
- Contrast the lack of discernment of Simon.
- Simon wanted to lay hands “...on whomsoever” – regardless of spirituality.

(b) Simon’s Condemnation, 8:20-23

i. Peter’s Godly Indignation, 8:20

Acts 8:20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

Mt. 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to **destruction**, and many there be which go in thereat:

Jn. 17:12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of **perdition**; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

Phil. 1:28 And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of **perdition**, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

Phil. 3:19 Whose end *is* **destruction**, whose God *is* *their* belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

1 Tim. 6:9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and **perdition**.

2 Pet. 2:3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their **damnation** slumbereth not.

ii. Peter's Godly Intuition, 8:21

Acts 8:21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

Luke 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and **an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.**

### iii. Peter's Godly Injunction, 8:22

Acts 8:22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

- Peter had already dealt with Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5, a couple who had similar problems regarding money and true spirituality.
- “What we have today is profession without possession, conversion without repentance, and religion without the Holy Spirit or riddled with misconceptions about the Holy Spirit.”  
John Phillips, *“Exploring ACTS”* – p. 157.

## iv. Peter's Godly Insight, 8:23

Acts 8:23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and *in* the bond of iniquity.

### (c) Simon's Concern, 8:24

Acts 8:24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

Psa. 41:4 I said, **LORD, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.**

Luke 18:13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as [his] eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, **God be merciful to me a sinner.**

(3) Declaring the Gospel of Jesus Christ,  
8:25

Acts 8:25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

## Conclusion

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: **and ye shall be witnesses unto me** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, **and in Samaria**, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

