

HOW REVIVAL ACTS

Acts 8:26-40



FIRED UP

Act 8:26 And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

27 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,

28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

30 And Philip ran thither to *him*, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

40 But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.

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
- F. The Predicament, 1:6-7
- 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
- B. Triumph, 3:1-4:37
- C. Treachery, 5:1-42

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

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

c. Philip's Fellowship in the Gospel, 8:15-25

(1) Dispensing the Gift of the Holy Spirit, 8:15-17

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

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

i. What He Discerned, 8:18a

ii. What He Decided, 8:18b

iii. What He Desired, 8:19

(b) Simon's Condemnation, 8:20-23

i. Peter's Godly Indignation, 8:20

ii. Peter's Godly Intuition, 8:21

iii. Peter's Godly Injunction, 8:22

iv. Peter's Godly Insight, 8:23

(c) Simon's Concern, 8:24

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

3. A New Follower: Emphasis – Personal Contact, 8:26-40

a. Foreknowledge, 8:26-31

(1) The Strange Command, 8:26

Act 8:26 And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.



(2) The Sacred Cause, 8:27-28

(a) The Eunuch's Social Status, 8:27

Act 8:27 And he arose and went: and, behold, **a man** of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,

Here it refers to an inhabitant of the ancient kingdom of Meroe, which covered what is now northern Sudan south of Aswan to Khartoum. This man is powerful, the chief treasurer of a kingdom wealthy from its iron smelting, gold mining and trading position. It was a conduit for goods from the rest of the continent. *Candace, queen of the Ethiopians* (better "Queen Mother, ruling monarch of the Ethiopians," since *candace* is a title, not a proper name), cared for the duties of state. The king was regarded as a god, "child of the sun," too sacred to engage in administration. The candace in this instance was Amanitare (A.D. 25-41; Wead 1982:197; Crocker 1986:67). <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/commentaries/IVP-NT/Acts/Philip-Ethiopian-Eunuch>

Haile Selassie I was Ethiopia's 225th and last emperor, serving from 1930 until his overthrow by the Marxist dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam in 1974. The longtime ruler traced his line back to Menelik I, who was credited with being the child of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. <https://www.biography.com/people/haile-selassie-i-9325096>





MEDITERRANEAN SEA

EGYPT

River Nile

1st Cataract

2nd Cataract

3rd Cataract

Kerma

4th Cataract

Napata

5th Cataract

Meroe

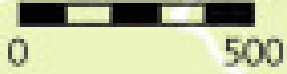
KUSH

River Atbara

RED SEA



Scale (km)



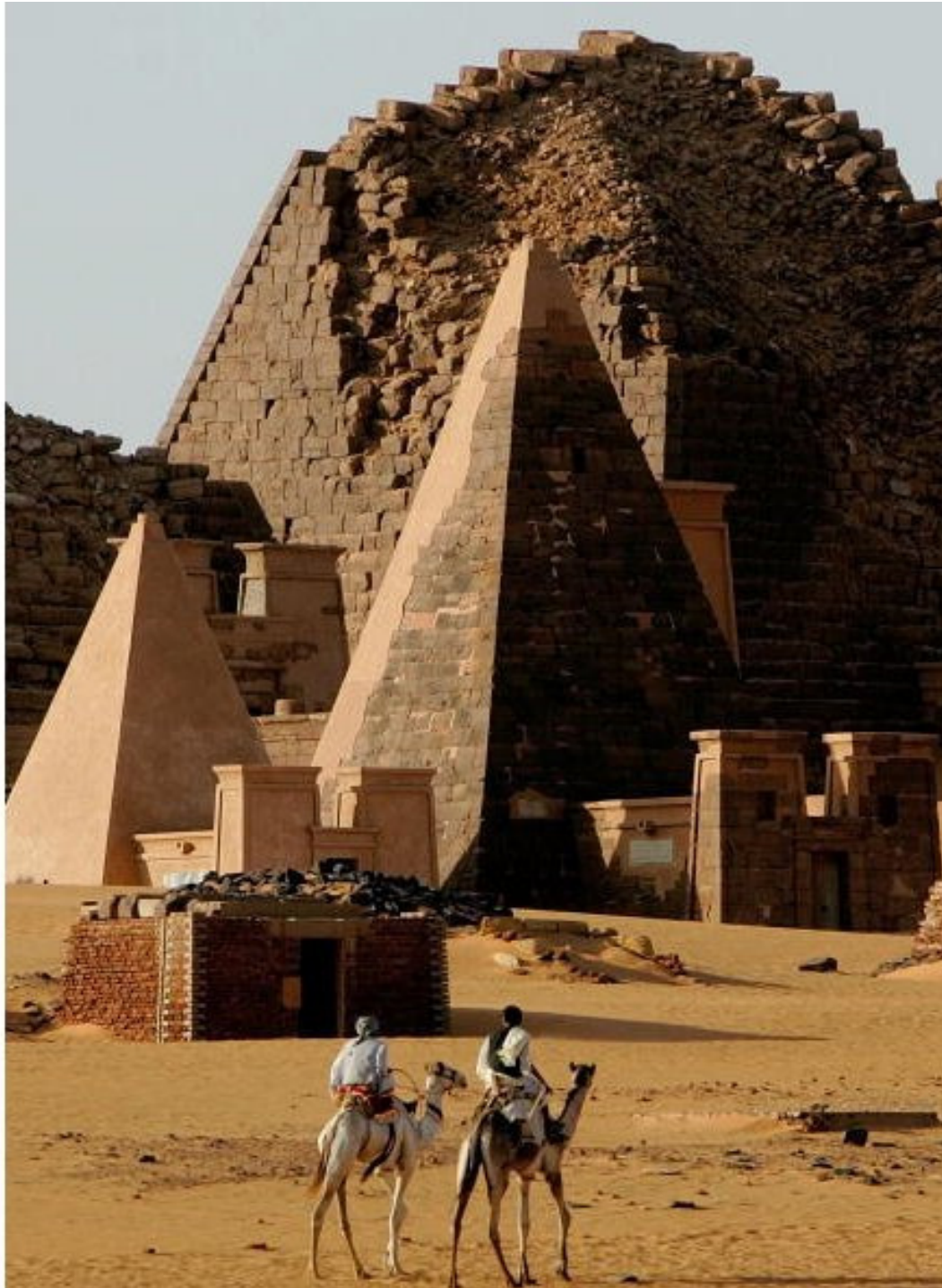
There were several female rulers of Ethiopia or, more precisely, Meroë. Meroë was the capital city of the ancient Kingdom of Kush. Kush (also known as Nubia) was often called Ethiopia in the Bible.[1] The region that once belonged to the ancient Kushite kingdom lies mostly in modern-day Sudan, which is situated directly south of Egypt. (Modern-day Ethiopia is still further south.)

Kandake (*kendake* or *kentakake*), which means “great woman”, was used as a royal title or dynastic name for the queens of Meroë. Kandake is sometimes translated into English as “Candace” (e.g. Acts 8:27). Some of the kandakes ruled in their own right. Others ruled with their husbands: these queens were not merely consorts, they seem to have had equal power with the king. At least one kandake was the ruler while her husband was consort. Furthermore, some kandakes were warrior queens who led their armies into battle.

Amantitere (c. 20–49 AD) Most probably the kandake of Acts 8:27.
<http://margmowczko.com/queen-candace-of-the-ethiopians/>



<http://superselected.com/world-travels-the-meroe-pyramids-of-north-sudan-remnants-of-a-great-civilization/>



<http://superselected.com/world-travels-the-meroe-pyramids-of-north-sudan-remnants-of-a-great-civilization/>



Isa. 56:3 Neither let the son of the stranger, that hath joined himself to the LORD, speak, saying, The LORD hath utterly separated me from his people: neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I *am* a dry tree.

4 For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose *the things* that please me, and take hold of my covenant;

5 Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.

6 Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;

7 Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *shall be* accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

8 The Lord GOD which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather *others* to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.

Psa. 68:31 Princes shall come out of Egypt; **Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.**

Deut. 23:1 He that is wounded in the stones, or hath his privy member cut off, shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD.

(b) The Eunuch's Spiritual State, 8:28

Act 8:28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

Isa. 53:7-9

(3) The Strategic Contact, 8:29-31

(a) The Command, 8:29

Act 8:29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.



<http://transascity.org/acts-826-40/>

(b) The Compulsion, 8:30

Act 8:30 And Philip ran thither to *him*, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

(c) The Complaint, 8:31

Act 8:31 And he said, How can I, except **some man** should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

b. Fact, 8:32-35

(1) The Text that Engaged the Eunuch, 8:32-33

(a) The Silence of the Lamb, 8:32

Acts 8:32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

Isa. 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

(b) The Slaughter of the Lamb, 8:33

Acts 8:33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

Isa. 53:8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither *was any* deceit in his mouth.

Luke 22:37 For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end.

Isa. 53:12 Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

1 Pet. 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24 For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

(2) The Truth that Eluded the Eunuch, 8:34-35

(a) The Question Asked, 8:34

Acts 8:34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of **some other man?**

(b) The Question Answered, 8:35

Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

c. Faith, 8:36-38

(1) Faith Exercised, 8:36

Acts 8:36 And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

(2) Faith Expressed, 8:37

Acts 8:37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

New International Version

Acts 8:36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” **[37]^c 38** And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

Quoted by Church Fathers over 100 years before *Vaticanus* and *Sinaiticus* were written. There is MS evidence in AD 190 (Irenaeus) and AD 255 (Cyrprian.)

(3) Faith Exhibited, 8:38

Acts 8:38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

d. Feeling, 8:39

(1) The Message Was Removed from His Sight, 8:39a

Acts 8:39a “And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more...”

1 Kings 18:12 And it shall come to pass, *as soon as* I am gone from thee, that **the Spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither I know not**; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth.

2 Kings 2:16 And they said unto him, Behold now, there be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master: lest **peradventure the Spirit of the LORD hath taken him up**, and cast him upon some mountain, or into some valley. And he said, Ye shall not send.

(2) The Message Was Ringing in His Soul, 8:39b "...and he went on his way rejoicing."

Psa. 126:5 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

6 He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*.

e. Faithfulness, 8:40

Acts 8:40 But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea.

Conclusion

Jn. 15:5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for **without me ye can do nothing**.

6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

8 **Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit;** so shall ye be my disciples.