

Acts Series Chapter 6

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I. Introduction.

A. The speaker's testimony: one day when Eims was reading the Bible he heard God speak to him that He loved him from John 3:16.

B. Respond to God's offer of forgiveness of sin, new life and love.

II. The Devil attempts to spur divisions in the church by murmuring.

A. The Apostles chose Stephen to address the problems in the church, a man who knew the Scriptures well.

B. Stephen's task was service in the background, yet he became the first martyr of the Christian church standing stage center for all time.

C. All the disciples besides the Apostles were scattered because of persecution after this.

D. One of the men that spread out was Philip who preached Christ in contrast to Simon the magician who preached himself. Philip preached with boldness.

1. He began with the Scripture.

2. He preached Jesus.

3. He began with Scripture because one is born again by the Word. (1 Peter 1:23, Jeremiah 23:28, Hebrews 4, Mark 4:13)

4. Philip preached Christ alone.

III. Saul's conversion.

IV. The ministry of the Holy Spirit in Acts. (Acts 2, 8, 10)

A. God was enabling to speak in tongues to communicate the gospel in Acts 2.

B. There is no mention of tongues in Acts 8.

C. Tongues are a sign to unbelieving Jews only and is not present in Acts 10 either. (1 Corinthians 14:21-22, Isaiah 28:11-12)

D. Our faith is based upon what the Prophets and Apostles preach. (Ephesians 2:18-20)

E. Many categories were mixed that were separate before with the spread of Christianity - women, men, Gentiles, and Jews.

F. The Jews required a definite sign for the Gentile inclusion - so tongues comes in again.

V. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit. This comes upon people when they receive Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:26-27)

VI. The filling of the Holy Spirit. (Colossians 3:16, Ephesians 5:18)

A. This means to be controlled by the Holy Spirit.

B. The Word of God is spirit and life - being under control of the Word is being under control of the Spirit of God. (John 6:63)

C. Prayer is another aspect of being under control of the Spirit of God. (Acts 4:31, Acts 5:32)

VII. Gifts. (1 Corinthians 12:27)

A. We are each a part of the Body of Christ performing only what we can perform.

B. Everybody does not have all the gifts, but we are to covet the best gifts being Apostleship, teaching, etc.

Application questions

1. How does Philip model evangelism?

2. Explain the purpose of tongues in Acts using Scripture to support your claims.

3. What is the filling of the Spirit, and what activity is it parallel to in the Scriptures?
