



The Gospel Takes a short Trek Acts 8... From Samaria to Ethiopia

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Acts 8 Summary

- I. Church Persecuted and Scattered... You will be my witnesses from Judea to Samaria to the uttermost parts of the world... Remember your old Testament Bible study... Reverse order redemption... vs 1-3
- II. Philip has success in Samaria... Pre gentiles...Acts 8: 4-13
- III. Pride still a big issue, oh but the implications for today's medicine oil salesmen! (Simon) Acts 8:14-24
- IV. Philip sent to the uttermost parts... An Ethiopian Eunuch. Acts 8:25-40





The Saints are persecuted... God uses this, and his People Boldly go...

- Questions from Acts 8 I have for Next week... Some people will have to present: A pair can claim a Question... If we have time we can start in breakout rooms.

Questions:	Who (pair) will share:
1. How did God use Persecution for the kingdom?	Carl &Valencia
2. Why did Peter and John have to go to Samaria from Jerusalem?	Donald & Suzanne
3. Why did Peter rebuke Simon?	Andrew & Yvonne
4. Is there Teleportation in the Bible?	David & Micah
5. The Ethiopian eunuch had an incomplete knowledge of God. What made it complete?	Gayle & Crystal & Bill & Bill
Bonus: For all: Stephen's Sermon Caused the Church to be persecuted. Why would God allow that to happen?	Whosoever will.



Acts 8:1-3

- **8** Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death.
- And on that day a great persecution ^[a]began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. ² *Some* devout men buried Stephen, and made loud lamentation over him. ³ But Saul *began* ravaging the church, entering house after house, and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison.



Acts 8 Implications

- What is our 5 year mission?
- Where is God sending us?
- Who is he sending us? Enemies like Saul? See how God turned that out..
- What persecution/other challenges, cause us to move on? How can God use such a “defeat” for His good?
- How does the church get money and the Spirit wrong today?

A Star Trek Enterprise spaceship is shown in flight against a starry space background. The ship is a sleek, dark-colored vessel with a prominent nacelle and a large, circular sensor array on its side. It is moving from the right towards the left of the frame.

I. WEEK 1-Church Persecuted and Scattered...

- I. You will be my witnesses from Judea to Samaria to the uttermost parts of the world... (Acts 1:8)
Remember your old Testament ... Reverse order redemption... Sent to Whole world (Adam and Eve) and Adam and Eve fall, then to Israel (Samaria and Judea), Samaria falls, then Judah falls... Go to Judea- New name of Judah, Samaria and the uttermost parts of the Earth.



Peace is not the absence of discord, but knowing who your enemy is! (Paul as an example).

- PEACE- We are to pray for Peace... Persecution is NOT peace (it is warlike), but we still have peace because we know who our Enemy is... It is Not Trump, Saul, Racists, Anti-Science people. Our Enemy is NOT flesh and blood... Therefore we are at peace with ALL!

TREATY SIGNED; WAR OVER



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WILSON LEAVES PARIS; SAILS SUNDAY

GERMANS PLEDGED TO ACT IN GOOD FAITH

CITY'S BELLS RING TIDINGS AS PEACE TREATY IS SIGNED; FLEET JOINS IN CELEBRATION

Flagship Pennsylvania in Hudson Fires Salute of 21 Guns as Men "Dress Ship."

JOY IN WALL STREET.

Star-Spangled Banner Flies From Fleet in North River as Bands Play.

The firing of a salute in Hudson gave the 8-inch battery of the speed-masted Pennsylvania, flagship of Admiral H. V. Horn, in the North River, gave official announcement to New York City of the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, ending the greatest war of the world. Flag and messages again carried the meaning of the salute to the other vessels of the Atlantic fleet, which at once "dressed ship" from the deck of each gallantly and crews have started out to share the honors of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and from the waterfront the

BEST DAY IN HISTORY SINCE BETHLEHEM, SAYS SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Danish Orders Every Ship and White Salute to Fly Salute of 21 Guns for Peace.

WASHINGTON, June 28.—(Special Service) "This day will be remembered in all naval ships and stations. The signing of the Treaty of Peace in Versailles today is the best day in the history of the world since the angels sang in Bethlehem 'Glory to God in the Highest, on Earth Peace, Good Will Toward Men.' "We are living the fulfillment of that prophecy. As a republic we are grateful to have borne a part in making peace and peace the path of progress and well-being for the world. Upon the signing of the Treaty of Peace, the most important document in the history of the world, every ship and shore station will fly a salute of 21 guns. The salute will be

TREATY SEVERE ON GERMANY, SAYS WILSON, BUT IMPOSES NOTHING SHE CANNOT DO

President in an Address to the American Public Says It Furnishes a Charter for a New Order and Ends Rule of Selfish Groups

WASHINGTON, June 28.—As soon as the signing of the Peace Treaty was reached from Versailles today the following address by President Wilson was issued from the White House: "My Fellow Countrymen: The Treaty of Peace has been signed. If it is ratified and acted upon in full and sincere conviction of its terms it will furnish the charter for a new order of affairs in the world. "It is a severe treaty in the duties and penalties it imposes upon Germany, but it is severe only because the great wrongs done by Germany are to be righted and repaired. It imposes nothing that Germany cannot do; and she can regain her rightful standing in the world by the prompt and honorable fulfillment of its terms. "And it is much more than a treaty of peace with Germany. It liberates great peoples who have never before been able to find the way to liberty. It ends, once for all, an old and intolerable order under which small groups of selfish men could use the people of great nations to serve their own ambitions for power and dominion. "It associates the free governments of the world in a permanent league in which they are pledged to use their united power to maintain peace by sustaining right and justice.

GUNS BOOM, PLANES FILL AIR; FRENCH CROWDS CHEER PEACE

GERMANS PLEDGED TO ENFORCE TREATY; NO RESERVATION

Delegates in Statement Say Nation Will Earn Right to Place in League.

VERSAILLES, June 28.—Foreign Minister Wustrow and Colonial Minister Hall, German representatives of the Treaty, today, made the following statement to the United Press: "We are signing without reservation. What we are signing will be carried out. The German people will see every means to meet the terms. "We believe the Entente will in its own interest find it necessary to change some of the terms, or they will see the Treaty is impossible of execution. "We believe the Entente will not insist on delivery of the Kaiser and other high officers. "The Central Government will not resist in any attack on Poland. "Germany will make every effort to give herself wholly to the peace."

WILSON, STARTING FOR HOME, BIDS FRANCE GODSPEED

Expresses Sympathy for People, With Belief in Her Future Confirmed.

PARIS, June 28.—President Wilson today, on the eve of his departure from France, made the following statement: "As I look back over the critical months I have spent in France, my memory is not of conferences and hard work done, but one of incomparable acts of generosity and friendship which have made the best use possible of the resources of France for the benefit of the people of America, and have fastened in my mind to be the representative of our people in the midst of a nation which knows how to show its kindness with its work done and its work done in the midst of what is in the light."

Mueller Signs for Germans at 3.12, Bell a Minute Later—Wilson's Name Comes Next, Followed by Lloyd George and Clemenceau.

Soldiers Break Ranks and Join in the Demonstrations of Joy—Chinese Refuse to Attend Ceremony and Gen. Smuts Signs Under Protest.

VERSAILLES, June 28 (Associated Press).—The World War was formally ended today by the signing of the Peace Treaty with Germany.

The epochal meeting in the Hall of Mirrors began at 3.10 o'clock. The treaty was signed by Dr. Hermann Mueller at 3.12 o'clock (9.12 New York time) and by Johannes Bell at 3.13 P. M. They were followed by the American delegates, headed by President Wilson, and then by the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan. The representatives of the minor powers, signed in alphabetical order.



Reset what it means: Peace vs Tribalism.

Living in Peace does not mean that we are not fighting, it means that the war is over. When wars end, there tend to still be skirmishes with people who don't know the war is ended, or who can't accept their side lost. Peace means the war is over legally-officially, not the fighting. When the civil war ended, we were no longer enemies but now back on the same side, the same team. The Bible is clear that our war is not with other people but against principalities and wickedness in high places (Eph. 6:12).



Jesus and Stephen...

Jesus and Stephen knew that when they said Father forgive them for the people killing them at the time. Jesus was signing the peace treaty between man and God through his blood, Stephen was reflecting Jesus and fighting one of the skirmishes once the war was over... The Jews just didn't know it yet. For Blacks in the US, Juneteenth (when Texas Slaves found out about their Freedom) happened over a year and a half after the emancipation proclamation. Slaves were free, they just didn't know it yet, and those holding them were not accepting that truth until after the south actually lost the war, and in the hearts of some, not for a long time after that.



External vs Internal Peace

- **External Peace is a fact of signed treaties, Internal peace is enacted when we internalize what that external peace actually means, and act accordingly. It may mean fighting against those who don't know the war is over yet, not that they die, but hopefully that they repent and see that there is only one Group- Image bearers of God . There are different teams and kingdoms, and we get to choose to be on God's Team with Jesus as our captain or not. We should not be at war with each other but because of tribalism often we do keep fighting. The losers of a war must accept the terms of the peace on the winner's terms. Jesus fought for us, and won externally- We have to accept those terms if we truly want peace internally.**



II. WEEK 2. Philip has success in Samaria...

Acts 8(NASB) ⁴ Therefore, those who had been scattered went about ^[b]preaching the word. ⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and *began* proclaiming ^[c]Christ to them. ⁶ The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the ^[d]signs which he was performing. ⁷ For *in the case of* many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out *of them* shouting with a loud voice; and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ So there was much rejoicing in that city.



We want Free... Our Identity

If our war is over we should be free... but Free to do what? They were not “free” to live where they wanted without persecution- so they left- Freely and served others...

For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Galatians 5:13



Identity is Key!

- You see I am a Star Trek Fan. I recently watched Star Trek Continued... A High quality fan fiction of the original series with big stars and Fairly good writing! They did a continuation of a previous episode called Mirror Mirror. It was called who is the Fairest... where mirror Spock was encouraged to logically look at the Evil Teran Empire and see why and how to take it down. Our Captain did not approach Spock on his own terms but the logic of Spock. Our Identity is key, and seeing how God Values the Identities of others is also Key. The Samaritans were like liberals to conservatives or conservatives to Liberals... or just others that we generally don't agree with.. But that didn't matter to God, and He sent Philip to them...

A Star Trek Enterprise spaceship is shown in the upper right corner, flying towards the left. The ship is a sleek, metallic vessel with a prominent bridge and two large nacelles. The background is a dark, star-filled space with a nebula-like glow. In the lower left, there is a faint, glowing structure that looks like a space station or a large satellite.

Acts 8: 4-8 (In Samaria)

Philip in Samaria (NASB)

⁴ Therefore, those who had been scattered went about [\[b\]](#)preaching the word. ⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and *began* proclaiming [\[c\]](#)Christ to them. ⁶ The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the [\[d\]](#)signs which he was performing. ⁷ For *in the case of* many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out *of them* shouting with a loud voice; and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ So there was much rejoicing in that city.



What are the signs of Spiritual Peace?

- Giving attention to what was said by Philip (the WORD),
 - Juneteenth- People Hearing the war was over and they were free! Adding Free to their Identity... not an easy feat externally or internally. If you only saw yourself as forsaken, templeless, a slave- how to you adjust to being Free?
- Signs which he was performing.
 - many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out *of them*
 - Vanquishing the Real Enemies!
 - many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed.
 - Physical Healing paralleling the Spiritual healing
- Much rejoicing in that city.



Let's hear from our Teams...

Questions:	Who (pair) will share:
1. How did God use Persecution for the kingdom?	Carl & Valencia
2. Why did Peter and John have to go to Samaria from Jerusalem?	Donald & Suzanne
3. Why did Peter rebuke Simon?	Andrew & Yvonne
4. Is there Teleportation in the Bible?	David & Micah
5. The Ethiopian eunuch had an incomplete knowledge of God. What made it complete?	Gayle & Crystal & Bill & Bill
Bonus: For all: Stephen's Sermon Caused the Church to be persecuted. Why would God allow that to happen?	Whosoever will.



III. Week 3-Taking down the Klingon's of Pride

- III. Pride still a big issue, oh but the implications for today's medicine oil salesmen! (Simon)
- Notice Nehemiah and Daniel's Prayers- father forgive us...we have sinned- not those other knuckleheads... They were humble and saw us not us and them. That identity allows us to intercede for those around us, not just blame them and curse them. Harriet's prayer was to change her master first, if he can't change then take him.



Meet the New boss, Same as the old Statue!

- Idolatry can be seen in what we value... We make statues of what we value... But even when they are torn down, we can replace them other idols.... Simon tore down his initial pride and got baptized, but he replaced that idol with another... We can replace God with Left and Right ideologies, when God is calling us to the complex middle where He has to Guide us!



IV. Week 4-Philip sent to the uttermost parts... An Ethiopian Eunuch.