



## Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:26–40

April 21

**OVERVIEW:** [Acts 1–12](#)

**CONTEXT:** If we are not an Acts 1:8 church, the Lord will make us an Acts 8:1 church! Through the “great persecution” the Lord ensured the Word (Gospel) kept going out. Ch. 8 is about it reaching Judea and Samaria, and starting with the Ethiopian, beginning to reach the very ends of the earth, through the Deacon Philip

**FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP** (Stephen)

- Who was Stephen? He was the first...?
- How does Stephen exemplify “truth on fire”?
- What does the Bible say about why some people hate truth so much?
- How are Stephen and Jesus similar?
- Why did his face shine “like an angel”?
- In our day do you think we are an Acts 1:8 church or risk becoming an Acts 8:1 church? What does he teach us about persecution?

**READ:** Acts 8:26–40

**QUESTIONS:**

1. *Because of the Queen of Sheba (1 Ki 10) it is thought that a Jewish community was founded in Ethiopia. That is why an Ethiopian was worshipping in Jerusalem (v. 27).*
2. **V. 26- How does the Lord’s wisdom not always make human sense (e.g. “this is a desert place)?** (Prov 3:5–8). Why should we always trust Him? What did the Lord know (v. 27a). **Can you share a time when something like this happened to you?**
3. *The Ethiopian was a eunuch. What did Jesus say about this (Mt 19:12)?* When talking about the LGBT agenda, why shouldn’t we include the rare instances of the I?
4. *V.28- People who are seeking after the Lord are usually asking profound questions and reading Scripture. In this case he’s reading Isaiah in a chariot—as you do!*

5. **V.29-If we don’t obey the Spirit’s promptings, relying on our own wisdom instead (v. 26), what will we miss?**
6. **V. 30- Thinking of last week’s study (Acts 4:13), how is it astonishing that a simple Philip would approach such a notable figure?**
7. **V.30- Why does some understanding need to precede believing the Gospel?**
8. **V. 31- How does the Ethiopian show humility here? Are we ready to guide people into the truth?**
9. *He was reading Isa 53:7–8. Did you know, this passage is not read in Jewish synagogues, it is the “forbidden passage.” Why?*
10. **V. 34- Often when people are hungry there is a great openness to spiritual things. How can this catch us off guard?**
11. **V. 35- How would you begin to share the Gospel from Isa 53? How can any passage be linked to the Gospel, even if it isn’t as explicit as it is here?**
12. **V.36- Philip mentioned baptism as part of sharing the Gospel. Do we? Why are so many professing Christians unbaptized?**
13. **How quick should we be to administer baptism to a convert? Is there an exceptional circumstance here that makes it slightly quicker than in other instances?**
14. **V.38- It is interesting to see the humility of this important figure. How is baptism a humble act? (It is also neat to see the Lord provide a location in the desert, just as the Eunuch asks!).**
15. **How does v. 38–39 support the fact that baptism is of a believer and through full immersion?**
16. **V.39- Philip is caught up like Elijah. Why? How do you think this experience propelled him into evangelism (v. 40)?**
17. **V. 39b- Why was the Eunuch filled with joy?**
18. **Take aways from this story...**

**NEXT TIME:** April 28, Acts 13:1–12, Paul & Barnabas