

44-Acts-Pt08-Transcript

well welcome back to our weekly Wednesday night Bible study and wasn't that opening clip spectacular I mean that is real magic there there's there's magic and then there's real magic and what you just saw there is a magician called dynamo who is basically just sweeping the world he's like a rock star today and he's a rock star because his mad magic or his sorcery is what I would call it just astounds people and the Bible has a lot to say about this type of magic and a lot to say about people like dynamo unfortunately because people no longer read the Bible they're not aware of what they're actually seeing and what it means and acts chapter 8 which is what we're going to study this evening Steele specifically with this topic so so let's get into it I'll open with a quick prayer and then let's get straight into Acts chapter eight Heavenly Father we thank you so much for your word we pray father that you'll help us to read it to understand it and to apply it in our lives and we pray that you'll be with us this evening and help us father to understand what's in Acts chapter eight so that we can meet godly lives that please you so let's begin we finished not last week with week before with Acts chapter seven we're in acts six the Deacons had been selected because the church was just growing so rapidly they started to run to logistical problems and so they picked out seven men who are full of the Holy Spirit who had a good report who are honest men to deal with this business so that the Apostles could stay focused on preaching the word and on prayer and and then in Acts chapter

seven we saw that Stephen as he was full of the Holy Spirit not only could he look after the logistical matters he also had the gift of evangelism and he started to preach the Word of God in such a powerful way just as Christ did that he ended up having the same fate as Jesus Christ and they killed him as they killed Christ now

we come into chapter eight of the book of Acts

verse 1 and it says that Saul now we're introduced to this character called Saul that Saul was consenting unto his death he approved so this was a barbaric death as this man that could look like an angel he was preaching the Word of God truthfully they were convicted they they realized what he was saying was true but they killed him and Saul approved of this and at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem so everybody was together at Jerusalem according to the instruction that Christ had given them to wait until they received the power of the Holy Spirit but they were all there in Jerusalem and and now this persecution was significant it was a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem and and from there then they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria except the Apostles so notice that they start in Jerusalem then they go to Judea then they go to Samaria however it says except the Apostles so the persecution was great in Jerusalem and basically what the Apostle said is this is what we're here to do we are here to be witnesses of Christ death burial and resurrection so they told the Brethren to flee and the Brethren then fled but the Apostle basically stayed

and faced the music and and continued to preach the gospel in the face of this persecution and develop men carried Stephen to his burial and made a great lamentation over him so notice this this is devout man and I've been in some church organizations that say you know if your spiritual you do not warn the dead because you know that they're going to be resurrected and so they have these funeral services that are devoid of any emotion and devoid of grief because they're trying to show how how spiritual they are and that is just false spirituality here we see devout men they know very well that Stephen is going to be resurrected and that he had led a successful life and that he will be in the kingdom with Jesus Christ and yet they made great lamentation over him it's good for us to grieve it's okay for us to grieve and so they grieved for Stephen as for Saul he made havoc of the church so Saul at this point in his life is a tool of the devil he's a religious man he represents part of the government in Jerusalem and he made havoc of the church entering into every house and and you know past is prologue we need to be ready for this type of turn of events where there's going to be such hatred for Jesus Christ and such hatred for the followers of Christ in the among those in power that they will be very thorough in trying to stamp out this truth but they never can the gates of Hell cannot prevail against this church the gates of Hell cannot prevail against this truth and in fact the more they tried to stamp out this truth the more flourished and so here Saul made half a kilo of the church entering into every house and and hailing men or constraining men and

women and committing them dragging them
into prison
therefore those that were scattered did
not the apostles so the apostles are in
Jerusalem
they've been teach so Christ was with
the apostles for 40 days educating them
going through the scriptures showing
them where he is everywhere in the
scriptures oh the scriptures are all
about Jesus Christ and so he was showing
the Apostles that for 40 days the
apostles then were educating the
Brethren in Jerusalem and now the
Brethren are scattered
so those brethren that were Scott
scattered not the apostles there in
Jerusalem those brethren went abroad
everywhere preaching the word so the
very thing that Satan wants to do use
saul and others to persecute the church
and stamp out the truth it actually
turned to further the gospel and those
who were being trained and educated then
took the gospel wherever they went and
that's why we have to take our Bible
study seriously we just never know how
events will change Stephen and then
Philip and the other five deacons they
were just living their godly lives and
events changed and suddenly they had to
come to leadership positions and and do
what they needed to do for the work of
God in the same way we're leading our
godly lives we're studying the
scriptures we don't know what the future
will bring in
God will use us but it's important that
we take our Bible study seriously so
that we can give to others what we
don't have and so we need to make sure
that we are filled with the spirit and
we are filled with the Word of God so
that we can then give the Word of God to

others so those that were scattered went everywhere preaching the word then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ unto them so Samaria was north of Jerusalem and the Jews were in Judea Israel was the Northern Kingdom in Samaria and the Jews were taken captive by the Babylonians and then through King Cyrus they were able to go back to Jerusalem but Israel went north and they were plundered by the Assyrians and the Assyrians did a very thorough job of mixing them in with Gentiles and scattering them so that there would be no national pride so the Sumerians had a type of Israelite religion but it was mixed with paganism as they themselves were mixed with Gentiles so the Jews never really accepted the Sumerians but here now

we see Philip going into Samaria north of Jerusalem to preach the gospel and notice that this is exactly matching the table of contents that we saw at the beginning of the book of Acts where Christ told them to stay in Jerusalem that the kingdom of God is coming but when it comes is not their concern their concern is this that they shall receive power and after the Holy Spirit comes upon them they shall be witnesses to Christ in Jerusalem and in all Judea and so we saw the opening Easter they've been in Jerusalem the whole time because of the persecution they now spread the gospel into Judea and now we see as well they take it into Samaria and then the final part which will begin next week is that when when they begin taking it from there

to the uttermost parts of the earth and that's this this gospel will be preached in all the world Matthew 24:14 as a witness and that's exactly so it we now

take on this verb
of witnessing and preaching the gospel
to the uttermost parts of the earth and
continuing and being empowered by the
holy spirit so we're now seeing the
gospel coming into Samaria and in verse
6 then of Acts chapter 8 and the people
with one Accord gave heed unto those
things which Philip spoke hearing and
seeing the miracles which he did and
it's amazing you know Jesus Christ was
very popular he was well accepted
everywhere except in Judea in Jerusalem
and he had to cry o Jerusalem Jerusalem
I you know he longed for Jerusalem but
they wouldn't have it so here we see the
same thing that the persecution is in
Jerusalem there were live among the
religious those who think they're close
to God and yet when when they go to
Samaria the gospel is readily accepted
so they with one Accord they gave heed
unto those things which Philip spoke
hearing and seeing the miracles which he
did so just as Christ did miracles among
the people and pleaded with them to
believe him for the works sake look at
the works the works that are enabled by
the Holy Spirit because they testify of
me and in the same way the miracles that
Philip was doing as an even though he
was a deacon here he's doing these
miracles they are testifying of the of
Christ that Christ is working through
Philip for unclean spirits crying with a
loud voice came out of many that were
possessed with them so imagine if you
had a family member or multiple members
of your family or friends were possessed
by demons and suddenly those demons
released them and many were taken with
policies and that were lame they were
healed and there was great joy in that
city you could imagine the joy the same

way that Christ brought joy wherever he went
look at Matthew 424 and his fame went throughout all Syria again he was famous he was well accepted except in Jerusalem and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with diverse diseases and torments and those which were possessed with Devils and those which were lunatic and those that had the palsy and He healed them so what we're seeing here is the acts of the Holy Spirit the acts of Jesus Christ the very same things that Christ did in his ministry now he's in heaven he's the head of the church he's filled the church with His Holy Spirit the church is his body and he is continuing to work in the world through the church and so what we're seeing here an exact match between the work of Christ when he was physically here and now the work of God as he is spiritually here through the Holy Spirit and through his church now this is a bit chilly verse 9 but so whenever you see but you can basically cancel everything that you've just heard but negates everything that you've just heard so there's this great joy everything is wonderful this the gospel is being preached but negate that now there's something wrong there was a certain man called Simon which before time so before Philip came into Samaria in the very same city he used sorcery and he bewitched the people of Samaria giving out that himself was some great one so there's a man here called Simon who is basically the king of the city everybody is looking to him as the greatest person in the city that he's this great power of God and and all the people are bewitched by him Philip shows up starts doing

these miracles by the Holy Spirit the same miracles that Christ did to bless the people to help the people unlike what Simon is doing miracles to show that he's some great one and the people are bewitched by Simon so now we have these two competing ideologies the two competing movements among the people they all believe in Simon they they're all bewitched by him and when Philip comes and preaches and does the miracles they accept everything that Phil it's preaching and they they're filled with joy so there's there's gonna be conflict here now notice that sorcery the Bible speaks a lot about magic and what you saw in the opening clip was sorcery this is not garden-variety magic where I'm asking you to pick a card any card and then through sleight of hand and distraction I'm able to do something that you know titillates you because it kind of confuses the mind but it's that's just sort of sleight of hand what we saw in the opening clip where someone has the ability to defy the laws of gravity that's sorcery and sorcery is not new sorcery has been with us for thousands of years we can go all the way back to ancient Egypt when Moses again we see two competing miracles Moses and Aaron went into Pharaoh and did as the LORD commanded and Aaron Kasden is brought before Pharaoh and before Pharaoh servants and it became a serpent that is a miracle so then Pharaoh called the wise men and the sorcerers now the magician's of Egypt they also did in like manner with their enchantments so Pharaoh this ruler of Egypt wasn't amazed by miracles so he saw this miracle that Aaron did and so we just called his sorceress and commanded them to do the same thing

because he was ruling with sorcery and that goes back to Nimrod and even before Nimrod so so this ability to work with demonic influences to captivate and rule over people it's not new and so Simon was doing something that's been handed down for generations and they cast down every man is rod and became serpents but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods and the true miracles the true work of God will always triumph now coming back to acts eight where we see again the same competing miracle working but there was a certain man called Simon which before time in the city used sorcery and bewitched the people of Samaria giving out that himself was some great one and we have to read this very carefully we can't miss this there are people who will come into our world and defy the laws of science and do miracles Jesus Christ was one of these people he came as a human being and he defied the laws of science the apostles were of these people they defied that the Deacons were of these people so God's people will have the ability to do miracles Satan's people will also do miracles what is the difference and the difference is the objective don't let's not get caught up in the miracles because people were seeing the miracles of Simon and getting caught up with it saying he's the power of God but notice that the miracles were being done to show that he was someone great Christ came to point everybody to the Father and the Apostles came to point everybody to Christ that the true workers of God never aggrandized themselves they never promote themselves and when you see somebody or or promote

men when you see someone doing miracles
and promoting himself or promoting a man
and taking you away from Christ red flag
red flag red flag hold it right there
now look at again we were talking about
sorcery take a look at this
you do
one Swiss guys
so this man dynamo does tremendous
miracles people are amazed he is like a
rock star when he goes to a halt he
fills the hall as much as any of the
greatest artists today do
he is just mesmerizing people also
curiously he's doing miracles very
similar to Jesus Christ fish feeding
feeding multitudes with fish walking on
water many miracles he does have
allusions to things that Christ did when
he was on earth but but he does all of
this because he wants
self-aggrandizement he wants praise of
men and he's somebody that was bullied
as a child felt very insecure as a child
and his grandfather was a sorcerer and
his grandfather taught him sorcery in
order British Prince to protect himself
from these bullies and and that's how
Satan works he picks on people or he
chooses people that have insecurities
and that want the praise of men and that
will do anything in order to overcome
that this feeling of insecurity and to
feel special and powerful and so this
man assignment Magus in a very
significant he's as significant or
almost as significant I would say as a
Nimrod even though both men are just
mentioned in passing if you read Genesis
believers chapter 11 or chapter in 1911
Nimrod is just mentioned in passing and
yet he is incredibly influential and
consequential in our world today
in the same way Simon Magus here is

mentioned in passing with me but he is incredibly influential in fact there's a term that we have today called Simon II and Simon is the buying or selling of something spiritual or closely connected with spiritual and really so Simon II is taken from Simon Magus and it just means when you're so desirous of spiritual recognition you're willing to pay for it and we'll see that later in the text I think though that this is a limited definition

of simony that really and truly simony is about wanting people to praise you using spiritual miracles or capabilities so that people praise you instead of God it's putting yourself in place of God and I think that's really how we should think of simony so notice here in verse 10 they all gave heed to him from the least to the greatest everybody was in a quote in one Accord saying this man is the great power of God because he was doing all these miracles but he wasn't using the miracles to point them to God he was using the miracles to point them to himself and he was quite satisfied that they were calling him the great power of God

notice in Matthew 12 verse 31 Christ says all men are sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men but the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit shall not be forgiven unto men so Christ thought never says that any blasphemy against him will not be forgiven he came as a man and he never expected anybody to just believe him because he said so though there were the works of the Holy Spirit that testified of him and and it's because of these works of the Holy Spirit that he expected us to believe that the witness of the Holy Spirit here in Romans 3 Paul says let God be true

and every man a liar so we are never to look to man what God is true and the witness of his Holy Spirit is true and and we want to see that the prophets are subject to the prophets as Paul says in first Corinthians 13 or 14 so let God be true every man a liar and we shouldn't be having ourselves looking to men notice even the apostles when they were doing miracles and when Peter is also the Peter did this miraculous healing and the people thought that Peter was some great power of God and when Peter saw it he answered unto the people you men of Israel why are you marveling at this or why are you looking so earnestly on us Peter and John as though by our own power or holiness we made this man to walk same with Paul when they wanted to worship Paul you'll see here that verse 14 of Acts 14 which when the Apostles burn burn abyss and Paul heard of it they toured their clothes they wanted to worship Barnabas and Paul they saw them as the great power of God they tore their clothes and ran in among the people crying out they were really animated about this they were agitated saying sirs why are you doing these things we also are men of light passions with you and preach unto you that you should turn from these vanities unto the Living God which made heaven and earth and I think that this is really critical for us to understand because we are going to be challenged we are going to be challenged and the scripture tells us that we're going to be challenged here we'll see in 1st John 2 that he says little children it's the last time and as you've heard that Antichrist shall come and even now there are many

antichrists whereby we know that it is the last time and Paul John was here speaking of the Gnostic movement there is this movement of Gnosticism that was that was abounding and going against the church and Simon was the father of that in fact Simon Magus is the father of all Christian heresies so so Nimrod is the the proxy for Satan and he was trying to establish this world global government to really take freedom from men and subjugate them and force them to submit to him with this economic political and religious government and that has been going on ever since that has been the agenda ever since and and God had to interrupt it but it continues to be the agenda and we're actually seeing it now taking much more shape just before Christ returns so that has been in effect since Nimrod and since Simon Magus what has been in effect is this competing ideology to Christianity and that's why John calls it Antichrist instead of Christ so the Gnostics believed that God couldn't die and so they developed this whole ideology around Christ not being God because he couldn't die and so here now there says even though there are many cries whereby we know it's the last time they went out from us but they were not of us for her if they had been of us they would no doubt have continued with us but they went out that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us but you have an unction from the Holy One that she know all things and I have not written unto you because you don't know the truth but because you know it and that no lie is of the truth who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ he is Antichrist that denies the father and the son whoever denies

the son the same hath not the father but he that acknowledges the son has the father also therefore let that abide in you which you have heard from the beginning if which you have heard from the beginning shall remain in you you shall also continue in the Son and in the father now I'm not here to offend anybody but I do want to challenge you and get you to think and research and what I'll tell you is that Simon Magus is the father of all false religion all false Christianity I should say any religion associated with Christianity that is false

Simon Magus is the father of it he saw all of this and will cover this in a bit in in acts 8 and he did not submit to it he went out and set up a competing ideology and you'll see here as you look about or look at the origins of all the churches that all of them either come out of the Roman Catholic Church or the Eastern Orthodox Church and at the top where it says the early Christian church that actually is the church that Simon Magus founded and all of these denominations can trace their roots back to Simon Magus and that's why they believe in the Trinity and John is emphasizing so much the father in the son and he is not emphasizing the Trinity the Trinity actually denies the father and the son and the family relationship between the father and the son and we see this Gnosticism is spreading everywhere and I I did say in a previous study that even Islam comes out of Christian and comes out of these Gnostic teachings and they they make a big deal of the Gospel of Thomas which is very clearly a gnostic text that no Bible scholar takes seriously but they take it seriously

because they want to disprove the the reality of Jesus Christ's crucifixion in fact look at this if you look at this website mercy profit org the profit of Mercy website regarding the Day of Judgment it says that Mohammed will be the intercessor for all mankind what the Prophet the Islamic prophet promised to humanity this is what he's promised to humanity that he shall be the intercessor on the day of judgment when the time comes in which Allah chooses to resurrect all of mankind on the day of judgment the Prophet as he himself explained as he himself explained will be the leader of the children of Adam carrying the banner of praise the enormity of the situation is further expounded by the Prophet as he explained that all of the previous prophets and messengers will be beneath his banner he is the greatest of all prophets and who told us this he told us this I will be the leader of the children of Adam on the Day of Resurrection and I'm not boasting in my hand it will be a banner of praise and I'm not boasting there will be no prophet that day Adam or anyone else but he will be beneath my banner I will be the first one to intercede and the first one to be called upon to intercede and I'm not boasting the people's distress on that day will go beyond such a level and become so intense that the people ask the greatest messengers sent to intercede with Allah on their behalf so that judgment may begin to be passed over humanity the messengers for various reasons relating to their humility and fear of Allah will try to evade the requests of humanity each one of them telling them to go to another finally they will approach Jesus who will instruct them to go to the

Prophet Muhammad and then it goes on and you can read more more of that but it goes on to say how great a prophet he is and that basically all humanity must look to him for intercession and this is why there's conflict between Islam and Christianity because we say that Jesus Christ is the intercessor and if we say that then Muhammad's prophethood is called into question but here we need to understand that we have been warned that we must focus on Jesus Christ and notice here that Jesus says in Matthew 24 verse 4

take heed that no man deceive you for many shall come in my name saying I am Christ and shall deceive many now just get rid of this now

he says here let me go further down here in Revelation this is why this is so important to us why we have to be careful about simon magus in Retton in the future ahead of us

it says here first of all in Revelation 12:9 that the devil deceives the whole world we should not be proud we should not be egotistical to say you know this is my religion I don't want anybody speaking badly against my religion we should be humble before God and we should get on our knees and we should ask God to show us the truth and and whatever it is we want to submit to God and we want to know the truth and here we should be very careful because the devil deceives the whole world so when you see people like dynamo sweeping the world by storm or any movement any ideology taking the world over by storm we need to be cautious about that because the Scriptures tell us that Satan deceives the whole world and in Revelation 13 verse 11 there's there's a

beast a political beast and then there's
this religious peace I beheld another
beast coming up out of the earth and he
had two horns like a lamb and he spoke
like a dragon and he exercises all of
the power of the first beast before him
beast being basically a political Empire
that brutalizes and consumes the people
of God and causes the earth and them
which dwell therein to worship the first
beast whose deadly wound was healed so
there's some political system that
collapsed and then we thought it was
over but now it's coming back and that's
what it means by the deadly wound was
healed and this so there's this
religious leader now that is pointing to
the political leader and causing
everybody to worship that first beast
and he does great wonders so that he
makes fire come down from heaven on the
earth in the sight of men so he does
miracles and he deceives them that dwell
on the earth by the means of those
miracles which he had the power to do in
the sight of the beast and and people
are like in awe about the miracles
they're not saying what is the objective
of you performing these miracle
and are you pointing us to Christ and
the father or are you turning us away
from Christ and the father because if
the miracles come from God they will
point us to Christ and the father if
they come from somebody else they'll
point us to men and so it says here
saying to them that dwell on the earth
that they should make an image to the
Beast which had the wound by a sword and
did live now notice Christ says Jesus
Christ in John 5 says truly truly this
is true this is truly truly I say to you
the hour is coming and now is when the
dead shall hear the voice of the Son of

God and they that hear shall live so it is the Son of God that will raise the dead for as the father has life in himself so has he given to the son to have life in himself so it's always the father in the Sun and so the Sun now has life in himself and hidden in other words the the son is God and he has the ability the ability to create life and to raise life from the dead and the father has given Christ authority to execute judgment so not only is Christ going to resurrect the dead he's going to judge the dead and this notion that you know Christ is people are gonna go to Christ for intercession and he's gonna say go to somebody greater there is nobody greater than Jesus Christ except the father Jesus Christ every name is under Christ's name except the father's and every knee shall bow to Christ except the father so so the father has given Christ authority to execute judgment because he is the son of man he became a human being and so he is the one that can compassionately and with empathy and insight judge every human being Marvel not at this for the hour is coming in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice and shall come forth they that have done good to the resurrection of life and they that have done evil to the resurrection of damnation I can of my own self do nothing as I hear I judge and my judgment is just why because I seek not my own will but the will of the Father which sent me and this is again what we have to have this perception whose will are you seeking are you seeking your own will does everything kind of seem to go in your favor whatever you want you get or are you seeking the father's well so this is

what Christ said that he was seeking the fall as well notice now in verse 31 if I bear witness of myself my witness is not true and this is what Simon Magus was doing he was he was performing these sorceries and he was performing them to bear witness of himself I am the great power of God and so he bewitched all the people with these sorceries and from the least of them to the greatest they all agreed that he must be the great power of God because he wore witness of himself and that's what false religion and that's what false leaders do they bear witness of themselves the Holy Spirit bears witness of Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ points us to the father so he says here if I bear witness of myself my witness is not true that they self-serving there is another that bears witness of me and I know that the witness which he witnesses of me is true so that was John the Baptist and then he goes on to say how John bear witness of him but then he says but I have greater witness than that of John so it's not just John the works which the father has given me to finish the same works that I do they bear witness of me that the father has sent me so the Holy Spirit working in Christ healing everybody blessing everybody performing the Father's will of a blessing on everybody these works pointed to Christ as the Son of God and the father himself which sent me has borne witness of me so even the father bears witness of Christ you neither heard his voice at any time nor seen his shape and you have not his word abiding in you for whom he has sent you do not believe and he tells them to search the Scriptures because they all bear witness of Christ now notice in verse 41

I receive not honour from men and this is how Satan misses why Satan was unable to pervert Christ this is why Christ could be a faithful witness because all of Satan's offers fell on deaf ears because he wasn't interested in the honor of men you look at a man like dynamo who was bullied as a child and needed became insecure as a result and needed to feel loved and needed and honored and so he has a price you could buy dynamo so if you're a political leader you want to be which people and get them to worship you hire a guy like dynamo everybody has a price except Jesus Christ and those that are empowered by the Holy Spirit and so here Christ says I have no price I'm not looking for honour from men and so he says I receive not honour from men but I know you that you do not have the love of God in you I came in my father's name and you do not receive me notice this if another shall come in his own name him you'll receive so III you know I come in my father's name I don't come and declare myself I come and declare the father and you won't receive me but somebody who comes to declare themselves like a Simon Magus to say that I am the great power of God and then when they declare themselves because they're egotistical in an ego-driven they will abuse you Christ is saying they will abuse you and yet you'll accept them and you'll accept their domination over you not to bless you but to to subjugate you and to abuse you you'll accept them even though they come in their own name so he says if another shall come in his own name you'll receive him how can you believe which receive honor one of another and seek not the honour that comes from God

only so let's go back now to Acts chapter eight with that backdrop that true servants of God declare themselves they never try to make themselves great they always point to Christ and Christ points to the Father so verse 10 that they all gave heed from the least to the greatest saying wow look at the miracles there for this man is the great power of God and to him they had regard because that of a long time he had bewitched them with sorceries so for a long time he was honing his craft owning his craft performing these sorceries defying the laws of science and the people were all taken by this and then he was saying oh by the way I'm the great power of God and so they believed that but when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ they repented and they were baptized both men and women so so they listened to Philip it all made sense to them they saw the miracles of Philip they were full of joy and they accepted the gospel and they were all baptized so first they're baptized then Simon himself believed it also and when he was baptized he continued with Philip and wondered beholding the miracles and signs which were done so he was full of sorceries but he couldn't do these types of miracles and he saw the impact of these miracles and he saw how the people responded to the miracles and he was full of all he was full of all so this is somebody that is used to having all of the attention used to everybody elevating him and now he's seeing the attention going away from him and going toward Philip and then the the church and the miracles that God is doing through them now when the apostles which

were still in Jerusalem remember everybody fled but the Apostle stayed in Jerusalem when word got back to them that Samaria had received the Word of God that except that they sent unto them Peter and John so all the Apostles are together Samaria has accepted the Word of God Peter and John you go now this is critical because there's only one church and the foundation of the church is Jerusalem the foundation of the true church is Hebraic and this is why we know that whenever a church has a greco-roman root it's a false Church whenever a church has any other root except a hit break root it's false and so here as the church is now building up in Samaria they did not receive the Holy Spirit the Holy Spirit did not come to them in Samaria it came to them through the Apostles from Jerusalem so that everybody is clear there is one foundation to the church and it's Hebraic and it's it's in Jerusalem so here they sent Peter and John who when they were King when they would come down so they've been baptized now the Apostles come and they pray for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit for as yet it did it fell on none of them only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus then laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit and when Simon saw that through the laying on of the Apostles hands the Holy Spirit was given he offered them money so he was in wonder at all about all of the miracles and and he was just following Philip around and then he saw that the Holy Spirit was given through the laying on of the Apostles hands so they were in his mind the source of the Holy Spirit well everybody has their

price that's how he functions so he he
could be bought so therefore he thinks
that the Apostles can be bought and and
they cannot be and true Christians we
have Christ the Holy Spirit in us we
cannot be bought we cannot be
intimidated and we cannot be bought we
are just devoted to preaching the gospel
of Jesus Christ
period and so here he offers them money
but Peter said unto Him
your money perish with you because you
thought that the gift of God can be
purchased with money like wow you you're
just like how could you have this
thought you have neither part nor a lot
in this matter for your heart is not
right in the sight of God basically
Christ told us that out of the abundance
of the heart the mouth speaks so if he's
looking to buy this power of the Holy
Spirit then we know what's in his heart
and it's not right
notice this repent therefore of this
your wickedness and pray to God if
perhaps the thought of your heart may be
forgiven you
the our life with God begins with
repentance there nobody is so special
that God is just gonna select us and we
and we don't have to repent we don't
have to change and so this again is
something that we look for from the true
Church of God a calling to repentance
a calling to the law of God acts 5:32
says God gives the Holy Spirit to those
who obey Him and so there's this call
for obedience to the law of God the law
of God does not save us works do not
save us it's by God's grace we're saved
but once we are brought into God's grace
we do not violate God's law we will obey
God we love his law oh how love I thy
law and so this is again something that

we look for in the true Church of God
that or the true people of God that they
point people to God's law that we do not
violate God's law
so repent
for I perceive that you are in the gall
of bitterness and in the bond of
iniquity then answered Simon and said
you pray to the Lord for me that none of
these things which you have spoken may
come upon me and they when they had
testified and preached the word of Lord
returned to Jerusalem and preached the
gospel in many villages of the
Samaritans so it shows here that even
though Simon Magus was baptized even
though he was associated with the true
church he never repented and his ego was
too big to fit into the church so he
then established a competing church a
competing movement of Christianity and
it became very very successful and again
he's gonna use his sorceries and his
powers to promote that and there's much
written about Simon Magus a much written
about his heresies and we can see the
root of false Christianity in Simon
Magus and in fact I just want to take a
moment now to share with you because we
have lost our way in America America or
or the West used to be Christian we're
no longer Christian in fact President
Obama speaking of the United States says
America is no longer a Christian nation
now America used to be in a cold war
with the Communists and one of these
communists who defected from the KGB KGB
talks about the process of brainwashing
an entire nation and I just want you to
listen to what he has to say it's slow
process which we call either ideological
subversion or active measures actively
Mariotti in the language of the KGB or
psychological warfare what it basically

means is to change the perception of reality of every American to such an extent that despite of the abundance of information no one is able to come to sensible conclusions in the interests of defending themselves their families their community and their country it's a great brainwashing process which goes very slow and it's divided in four basic stages the first one being demoralisation it takes from 15 to 20 years to demoralize the nation why that many years because this is the minimum number of years which requires to educate one generation of students in the country of your enemy exposed to the ideology of the enemy in other words Marxism Leninism ideology is being pumped into the soft heads of of at least three generations of American students without being challenged or conquer balanced by the basic values of Americanism American touch with the demoralization process in the United States is basically completed already for the last 25 years actually it's over fulfilled because the dimerization now reaches such areas where previously not even comrade and drop of him on all his experts would would even dream such a tremendous success most of it is done by Americans to Americans thanks to lack of moral standards as I mentioned before exposure to true information does not matter anymore a person who was demoralized is unable to assess through information the facts tell nothing to him even if I shower him with information with the authentic proof with documents the pictures even if I take him by force to the Soviet Union and show him concentration camp he

will refuse to believe it until he is going to receive a kick in the in his fat bottom when a military boot crashes his then he will understand but not before that very tragic situation of demoralisation the neck is a slow process so very fascinating these four steps that he speaks about he speaks about the first step being demoralization and the Western civilization countries countries of the West have been demoralized demoralized in the sense of young the sense of discouragement but also demoralized in a very specific sense of our moral values being taken away from us and Western civilization is built upon judeo-christian values and we've been demoralized we've basically were throwing the post modernists have been working to deconstruct society and to remove these values so that we no longer value of the family we no longer value children we no longer value sexuality we no longer value government we've been demoralized we've lost our values and that's the first step in brainwashing in Asia and then destabilization and we see that you know over and over again even with this latest black lives matter sweeping the u.s. coming into Canada what you're seeing destabilization we're seeing a migration in Europe and all these civilizations being destabilized and destabilization followed them by crisis and after crisis normalization fitting in now to the new place a totalitarian government system that that's where this is all heading and they were trying to do it with with communism we're seeing is the islamification of Europe as a totalitarian political and religious

system and you know after 9/11 one of the key findings of the 9/11 report was what they called a failure of imagination

that all of the clues were there that with with a little bit of connecting the dots what happened on 9/11 could have been prevented because one thing about the Islamic terrorists is they're true to their word they tell us what they're gonna do and then they do it and so all the clues were there there were some practice runs some planes had actually run into the up and we've flown into buildings and so the 9/11 Commission report actually said our leaders lacked imagination and that's just what URI Esmond off was saying that you can put all the factions in front of somebody and show them look this is how your freedoms are gonna be taken away from you and and it doesn't matter anymore when they're demoralized it just doesn't matter they cannot connect the dots they don't want to connect the dots and even though you know Donald Trump is saying let's make America great again you can't what you know just getting up in front of people and saying let's be great that doesn't make America great what made America great

were her judeo-christian values and she has been demoralized so the way to be great again is to have a great ideology and and in the absence of a great ideology even a flawed ideology even a very poor ideology will have greater power over a civilization then then you know atheism and agnosticism and confusion and so the nation has been demoralized and it needs to get back to God and the foundation of the Constitution is the belief in a creator a Christian God that all men are created

equal they have an alien in alienable rights and among these are life liberty and the pursuit of happiness America is a great nation or was a great nation and it has influenced the world mostly in a very positive way until it was demoralized and now it's unfortunately in
fluence the world in a very negative way so that was simon magus let's just continue an accent and wrap up now as in the second part of apps there's another baptism so first there was the baptism of Simon Magus and and the father of all false religion that is connected to Christianity any false religion that that claims Christ is really now coming from the Father Simon Magus now let's continue in acts 8 verse 26 and the angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying arise and go toward the south onto the way that goes down from jerusalem unto gaza which is desert so he's been told to go to the desert and he arose and went and behold a man of ethiopia a eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians who had the charge of all of her treasure so a very important man and had come to Jerusalem for to worship so at this time there were god-fearers they were not Jews they were Gentiles but they had accepted the Jewish religion and they were known as god-fearers and so this was a God fair who had come to Jerusalem to worship he was returning to Ethiopia and sitting in his chariot he was reading Isaiah the prophet and so the spirit said to Philip go near and join yourself to this chariot and Philip ran there to him and as he got there so the the eunuch is reading and at this time people would always read out loud when we read we read silently that would have been very

strange back at this time everybody who read would read aloud and so the eunuch is reading and Philip runs to him and he hears him reading the prophet Isaiah and he heard him read the prophet Isaiah and said to you do you understand what you're reading so you know the Apostles had spent forty days with Christ and he showed them all the scriptures that pertain to him the Apostles then taught the Brethren Philip would have been taught directly by the Apostles all of these scriptures and so now he's hearing the eunuch reading Isaiah and he's amazed

and what he's reading and he's saying like do you understand what you're reading and the unit very humbly says how can i except some man should guide me in' and that was the way it was with some of these scriptures they would read them but they didn't really know what is it talking about because the prophecies had not yet been fulfilled and so they would read them but not fully understand them and no one had explained this to him so he says how can i come one except someone guided me and he desired philip that he would come up and sit with him in 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's so he opened not his mouth in his humiliation his judgment was taken away and who shall declare his generation for his life is taken from the earth this is ancient prophecy speaking of Christ all the scriptures pertain to Christ though we should be able to anybody who's reading the Bible we should be able to ask them do you understand what you're reading and wherever they're reading we should be able to show them Jesus Christ and

that's what Philip was able to do so he says Philip says he answered the image answered Philip and said I beg you who does he stuffed the Prophet speak is he speaking about himself or is he speaking about someone else then Philip opened his mouth and began at the very same Scripture and preached unto Him Jesus the entire Bible speaks of Jesus's it's all about Jesus and whatever scripture people are in we should be able to go to the weak we don't need the New Testament to preach Christ we can take the Old Testament and preach Christ because he's in every book and so where this man was Philip was able to preach Christ to him right from that spot and he preached unto him Jesus and as they went on their way they came unto a certain water and the eunuch said look there's water here what hinders me to be baptized and again because he was a God fear he would understand all of the backdrop goes with the church the holy days the commandments clean and unclean meats he would have all of this understanding so what he didn't have just like the Jews was the understanding of Christ and now that he has this understanding of Christ and how Christ's sacrifice enables the New Covenant and how that New Covenant enabled is for all mankind he would see here well what enables me what prevents me from being baptized and so it says here and Phelps said if you believe with all your heart you may and he answered and said I believe that Jesus is the Son of God and we saw that that was the work of Christ when Christ was on earth when we read it in the Gospel of John that his work was that people would believe that he is the son of God that God sent him into the earth and and now the Holy Spirit is

continuing to work in now and Philip and doing this work to point people to Christ to believe that he is the son of God 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 and when they came up out of the water the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away that the eunuch saw him no more and he went on his way rejoicing so this was a eunuch that because he was a eunuch and most likely a Gentile would have been separated from the church now he's been baptized he is rejoicing but Philip was found at as Otis and passing through he preached in all the cities again that Jesus Christ is the son of God and the gospel of the kingdom of God he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea so we see here the acts of the Holy Spirit and unfortunately in most Bibles it's in the Acts of the Apostles it's not Philip was not an apostle Stephen was not an apostle and yet the Holy Spirit worked mightily in them so it's the acts of the Holy Spirit and what it is it's the acts of Jesus Christ working through the body of Christ the church to do the work of God to be witnesses of Jesus Christ that he is the son of God and so now next week when we go into Acts chapter 9 what we've seen so far is the church the Apostles and the church being witnesses of Christ in Jerusalem then beginning of the in chapter 8 we saw it spreading into all of Judea then in through the rest of chapter 8 we see it spreading through Samaria beginning in chapter 9 now is when it goes beyond Samaria and ultimately to the ends of the earth and that's what we'll do next week God willing and I'll look forward and go to CGI or webcast

now and we can have a bit of fellowship
and chat there thanks so much for
joining us tonight I hope you got a lot
out of this study again we just love the
Word of God and we want to learn it and
pray that it's a blessing for you god
bless