SOME LESSONS FROM PHILIP THE EVANGELIST

Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION

1. In the 8th chapter of the book of Acts we have a record of the preaching the Philip did.
2. Philip was a part of the Jerusalem church at one time, and was one of the seven chosen to take care of the Grecian widows -- Acts 21:8
3. When a great persecution was brought against the church at Jerusalem, and the disciples were scattered abroad, Philip went to the city of Samaria to preach -- Acts 8:5
4. Let us study PHILIP AS A PREACHER.

I. PHILIP PREACHED CHRIST

1. Acts 8:5; 8:35
2. He did not preach OPINIONS.
3. He did not preach the CREEDS OF MEN.
4. He did not preach HIMSELF -- II Cor. 4:5; John 5: 43 - 44
5. What does it mean to PREACH CHRIST?
   (1) He preached Old Testament prophecies fulfilled in Christ -- Isa. 53: 7 - 8; Acts 8: 33 -35
   (2) He preached the Word -- Acts 8:4
      1. The Word and the Gospel are the same -- I Pet. 1: 25
      2. So, he preached the gospel -- I Cor. 15: 1- 4
      3. That's what Jesus said men were to preach -- Mk. 16: 15 - 16
   (3) He preached the Kingdom of God -- Acts 8:12
      1. The Kingdom established on Pentecost -- Mk. 9:1; Acts 1:8 ; Acts 2: 1
      2. The Kingdom is spiritual -- John 18:36; Rom. 14: 17
      3. The Kingdom and Church are one and the same -- Matt. 16: 18 - 19
   (4) He preached the Plan of Salvation -- Acts 8:12
      1. Acts 8: 36 - 39
   (5) He preached the Authority of Christ -- Acts 8: 12; Matt. 28:18; Acts 4:12
   (6) He did not preach infant baptism -- Acts 8:12

II. PHILIP PREACHED THE BASICS

1. He preached the Kingdom, the Authority of Christ and Baptism -- Acts 8:12
2. Many do not want to hear the basic Truth that is essential to Salvation and pleasing to God.
3. We had better never get away from the basics -- these are the Foundation on which our faith rests.
4. We are getting away from the basics in the church TODAY.

III. PHILIP WAS OBEDIENT

1. The angel of the Lord told him to go toward the south, unto the way that goes down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, and the Word says, "AND HE AROSE AND WENT..." Acts 8:27
2. Philip was preaching in the city of Samaria and having good results, but God told him to go and preach in another place and he went.
3. He was willing to obey heaven's commands.
4. Paul was like Philip -- he was an obedient man -- Acts 26:19
5. Are you like Philip and Paul? Are you obedient to Heaven's commands?
   (1) Do you GO and try to TEACH OTHERS the gospel?
   (2) All of us are to GO -- Mk. 16:15 - 16
6. The only way man can be pleasing to God is by obedience -- I Sam. 15:22 - 23

IV. PHILIP WAS ENTHUSIASTIC

1. Verse 30 says, "AND PHILIP RAN THITHER TO HIM" -- Acts 8:30
2. He ran to teach this man the gospel.
3. To be enthusiastic is to be filled with ardent ZEAL.
4. Paul said, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto man..." --Col. 3:23
5. Enthusiasm provided the "push" to get things done -- men of enthusiasm lead the way!
6. We are to "provoke one another unto love and good works" --Heb. 10:24

V. PHILIP FOUND WHERE THE EUNUCH WAS IN HIS UNDERSTANDING

1. Philip asked, "understandest thou what thou readest?" -- Acts 8:30
2. By asking questions we can learn "where" a person is so we can begin at that point to teach him what he needs to know to obey the Lord.
3. This is well illustrated in the conversion of the Jews of Acts 2, the Jailor of Acts 16, and Saul of Acts 22.
   (1) The Jailor, a heathen, wanted to know what he must do to be saved -- Acts 16:30
      1. The first thing he needed to do was to believe -- Acts 16:31 - 32
   (2) The Jews of Acts 2 already believed-- they were told to "repent and be baptized" -- Acts 2:38
   (3) Saul was a penitent believer -- he was told to be baptized -- Acts 22:16

VI. PHILIP OPENED HIS MOUTH

1. Acts 8:35
2. He was not afraid to open his mouth and teach the eunuch what he needed to hear.
3. Paul was not afraid -- Acts 20: 26 - 27; 20:31
   (1) To the churches of Galatia -- Gal. 1: 8 - 10; 2:5
4. Paul told Timothy to open his mouth -- II Tim. 4: 2 - 4
5. Peter lifted up his voice on Pentecost -- Acts 2:14
6. We must OPEN OUR MOUTHS TODAY!

CONCLUSION

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