

## **Acts 8-10    *The Transition of Gospel Ministry Ownership... to Paul and the Gentile Church. (Part One)***

### **NOTES**

#### **Acts 8            Persecution Scatters the Church – *beware of the transition!***

- 1. Great persecution scattered disciples to preach the Gospel beyond Jerusalem. (8:1-3)**
  - ✓ The apostles stayed at Jerusalem (HQ for the early Jewish church); Saul made havoc of the church.
- 2. Philip went to Samaria – a major shift in direction – as Christ said they would. (8:4-8)**
  - ✓ The disciples were scattered and went everywhere preaching the word of God;
  - ✓ Philip preached Christ to the Samaritans.
- 3. God worked through transitions for the Samaritans (half Jews) that believed. (8:9-24)**
  - ✓ Believers were baptized; the apostles were sent from Jerusalem to confirm their salvation.
- 4. Philip was led to the Ethiopian eunuch who believed in Christ and then was baptized. (8:25-40)**
  - ✓ Philip was sensitive to the Spirit's leading and immediately obeyed when called upon.
  - ✓ God was drawing the Ethiopian to faith in Christ – God the Son – Philip opened his mouth for God.
  - ✓ The Ethiopian believed first and then was baptized by immersion in water.

#### **Acts 9:1-18    Saul's Conversion – *the Apostle to the Gentiles gets saved!***

- 1. Saul aggressively set his life against Jesus Christ and His church. (9:1-2)**
  - ✓ Saul was zealous to destroy the church; secured letters from high priest to continue at Damascus.
- 2. Saul was confronted by the Lord Jesus Christ – Himself – as he journeyed. (9:3-5)**
  - ✓ A light shined round about him from heaven, and he fell to the earth.
  - ✓ He saw Christ and heard His audible voice – a unique personal encounter.
  - ✓ Jesus charged him with crimes against Him – as holy God and the resurrected Saviour.
- 3. Saul, fearing and trembling before a holy God, believed and repented in his heart and confessed with his mouth the Lordship of Jesus Christ. (9:6-9)**
  - ✓ He repented and believed – and immediately yielded his will and life to Christ as Lord!
- 4. God used Ananias – a common, faithful disciple – to guide Saul's obedience at first. (9:10-18)**
  - ✓ Ananias was sensitive to the Lord's leading and obeyed when He was called upon.
  - ✓ God told Ananias that He had an incredible plan for Saul's life.
  - ✓ Saul received his sight, was filled with the Holy Spirit and was baptized by Ananias.

#### **Acts 9:19-43    Saul the Disciple – *the disciples prepare him to preach Christ!***

- 1. Saul gained strength from other disciples and straightway preached Christ. (9:19-25)**
  - ✓ Saul was strengthened by time spent with the disciples (we call that discipleship).
  - ✓ Saul immediately began to preach that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; Jews wanted to kill him.
- 2. Barnabas was used by God to connect Saul with other believers in Jerusalem. (9:26-30)**
  - ✓ The disciples were rightly afraid of Saul and did not believe him at first.
  - ✓ Barnabas took responsibility to get Saul integrated into the fellowship of believers.
  - ✓ Saul was then able to do what he was created by God to do – preach Christ crucified.
- 3. The churches had rest and were edified – and began to multiply. (9:31)**

- ✓ The Bible says the churches were walking in the fear of the Lord.
- ✓ The Bible says the churches were walking in the comfort of the Holy Ghost.

**4. Peter – the apostle to the Jews – performed signs and Jews turned to the Lord. (9:32-43)**

- ✓ A certain man Aeneas was healed of the palsy and many turned to the Lord.
- ✓ A certain disciple Tabitha was raised from the dead and many believed in the Lord.

**Acts 10:1-33 Peter and the BIG Transition – God moves to the Gentiles!**

**1. Cornelius – a religious, God-fearing Gentile – received a warning from God. (10:1-8)**

- ✓ He was a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house.
- ✓ He gave much alms to the people.
- ✓ He prayed to God always.
- ✓ He was lost and living under the wrath and condemnation of Almighty God.

**2. Peter – the apostle to the Jews – received the command to go to the Gentiles. (10:9-33)**

- ✓ God spoke to Peter in prayer through a vision and confirmed it THREE times (three witnesses).
- ✓ Peter – as a faithful Jew – rebuked God who was clearly making a TRANSITION!

**Acts 10:34-33 God's Warning to the Gentiles – the Gospel was sent to you!**

**1. The word of God was published throughout all the land of the Jews. (10:34-37)**

- ✓ Then Peter opened his mouth; God is no respecter of persons; EVERY NATION people who fear Him.
- ✓ The word was sent by God and preached – peace with God by Jesus Christ, He is Lord of all.
- ✓ The word was published throughout all Judaea – the Gentiles knew that word...

**2. The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ was known by everyone that heard. (10:38-41)**

- ✓ God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power.
- ✓ Jesus went about doing good, healing all that were oppressed by the devil.
- ✓ Jesus was murdered and hanged on a tree – He became sin for us who knew no sin.
- ✓ God raised Jesus Christ from the dead the third day defeating sin and death.
- ✓ The resurrection of Jesus Christ was witnessed openly by over 500 eyewitnesses.

**3. The warning – Jesus Christ was ordained by God to be the Judge of quick and dead. (10:42)**

**4. The warning – all the prophets have given witness – repent and believe in Him – or perish. (10:43)**

**Acts 10:44-48 The Official Seal of Salvation – God grants repentance to the Gentiles!**

**1. The gift of the Holy Ghost was given to the Gentiles that repented and believed. (10:44-45)**

- ✓ Those in Cornelius' house simply needed to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ✓ The gift of the Holy Spirit was given to seal their redemption by grace through faith.

**2. The sign of "tongues" was for the unbelieving Jews present – Peter and the six. (10:46)**

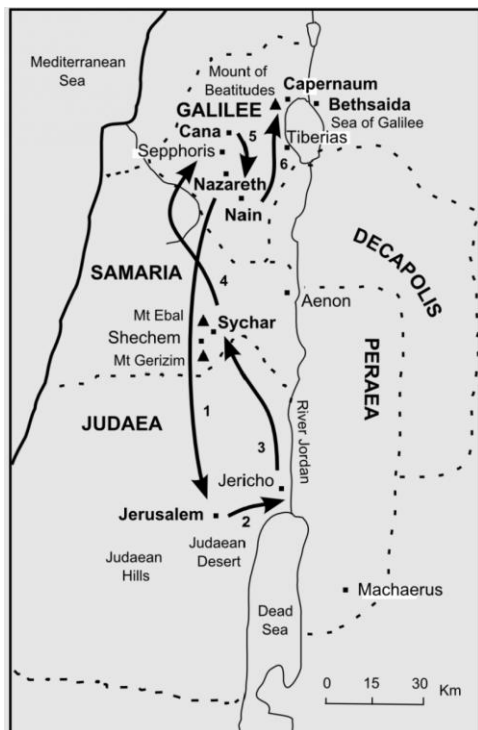
- ✓ Tongues are known languages foreign to the speaker and for unbelieving Jews. (1Cor 1:22; 14:22)
- ✓ Peter and the six Jewish eye-witnesses needed to know for sure the Gentiles were saved.

**3. Peter commanded them to be baptized who had ALREADY received the Holy Spirit. (10:47-48)**

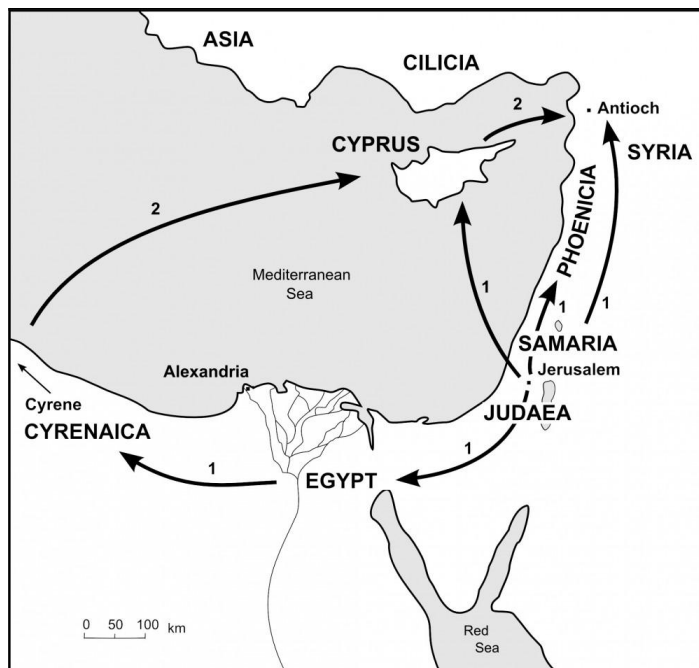
- ✓ For Gentiles, God established the pattern of baptism AFTER receiving the Holy Ghost.
- ✓ Peter obeyed Jesus' command to baptize ALL NATIONS following repentance for salvation.

**Personal Applications**

1. What did God speak to you about tonight? What does He want you to do differently beginning now?
2. Have you taken ownership of the Gospel ministry personally? Are you ready to advance the Gospel?



Movement of Jesus' ministry



Movement of the Gospel in Acts 1-11

