

Grow. Give. Go.

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

THE ONGOING WORK OF JESUS BY THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

The Book of Acts - Part 16

SCATTERED TO WITNESS

Beautiful Feet: The Global Mission Begun

(Acts 7:58-8:8)

INTRODUCTION:

“How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ How will they **preach** unless they are sent? Just as it is written, “HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO **BRING GOOD NEWS** OF GOOD THINGS!”

—Romans 10:14-15

REVIEWING THE NARRATIVE:

1. **THE STIR STEPHEN CREATED** (6:8-15)
2. **THE SERMON STEPHEN DELIVERED** (7:1-53)
3. **THE STONING STEPHEN SUFFERED** (7:54-8:1)
4. **THE SCATTERING STEPHEN STARTED** (8:2-3)

REVIEWING THE BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE ON PERSECUTION:

1. Persecution shouldn't **shock** us. If we walk in the **steps** of Christ, we can **certainly expect** it.

“...**do not be surprised** at the fiery ordeal among you,...”

—1 Peter 4:12

2. Persecution shouldn't **shake** us. If we walk in the **strength** of Christ, we can **confidently endure** it.

“...when you do what is right and suffer for it you **patiently endure** it,...”

—1 Peter 2:20

TWO RECURRING TRUTHS IN TODAY'S TEXT:

- 1A. NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE _____ OF GOD TO _____
THE _____, EVEN THROUGH _____. (7:58-8:4)

“And on that day **a great persecution 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.

- ⁴ **Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.**”

1B. _____ were they scattered? (8:1a)

2B. _____ were they scattered? (8:1b)

3B. _____ was scattered? (8:1c)

4B. _____ as they were scattered? (8:4)

• God's purpose is always _____ !

“Now I want you to know, brethren, **that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel**,¹³ so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,¹⁴ and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.”

—Philippians 1:12-18

2A. NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE _____ OF GOD TO _____
A _____ . (8:5-8)

“Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them.”⁶ The crowds with one accord were **giving attention to what was said by Philip**, as they heard and saw the 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.”**

CONCLUSION: