

## **ACTS, PART 8: “SUPER POWERS”**

Pastor Josh Pardee – November 24, 2019



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# **SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE**

### **Acts 1:8 (NIV)**

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

### **Acts 8:1 (NIV)**

1 On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.

**Acts 1:8 will result in Acts 8:1 if Acts 1:8 is lived out.**

### **Acts 8:4–17 (NIV)**

4 Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. 5 Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. 6 When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. 7 For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. 8 So there was great joy in that city.

9 Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, 10 and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, “This man is rightly called the Great Power of God.” 11 They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his sorcery. 12 But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. 13 Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.

14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. 15 When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

## **Luke 9:54**

54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?”

## **Acts 8:18–24 (NIV)**

18 When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money 19 and said, “Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”

20 Peter answered: “May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! 21 You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. 22 Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord in the hope that he may forgive you for having such a thought in your heart. 23 For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin.”

24 Then Simon answered, “Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me.”

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## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

**What do you think it would be like to have been present when the Peter and John came to confirm that the Samaritan church was a part of *THE* church?**

**Do you think all of the racial issues were settled after this moment?**

**In what ways do you relate to being Phillip, and in what ways do you relate to being Simon? Can you identify areas in your life previously and currently that you have been using your relationship with the Holy Spirit for your own gain, fame, or approval? What does it look like for you to be soft-hearted and submit in those areas when they arise?**

**Do you think God is more concerned with working in you or through you? Why?**

**When you think about how you have been “rebuked” by the Lord, is it harsh or is it gracious? Do you think your presuppositions of who God is plays into how you perceive the rebuke is given to you?**

**How do you think the Lord is currently asking you to submit to Jesus? How does this play out within your relationships within the church?**

**Has the Holy Spirit revealed some layers in your life about your motives and your heart that he is gently allowing you to enter in and submit them? What are they? How are you submitting?**