

AMPLIFIED – Is the Seed

September 20-21, 2025

Acts 7:59-60 (AMP) – They continued stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, “Lord Jesus, receive and accept and welcome my spirit!” Then falling on his knees [in worship], he cried out loudly, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them [do not charge them]!” When he had said this, he fell asleep [in death].

Acts 8:1-3 (AMP) – “Saul wholeheartedly approved of Stephen’s death. And on that day a great and relentless persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem; and the believers were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except for the apostles. Some devout men buried Stephen, and mourned greatly over him [expression a personal sense of loss]. But Saul began ravaging the church [and assaulting believers]; entering house after house and dragging off men and women, putting them in prison”.

1 Corinthians 15:9-10a (NIV) – “For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect”.

“If there had been any rose-colored optimism about quickly winning the Jewish people to their Messiah, that was gone. The Church could not expect triumph without a bloody battle” – **William LaSor**

Acts 1:8 (AMP) - But you will receive power and ability when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be My witnesses [to tell people about Me] both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth”.

Acts 8:4-8 (AMP) – “Now those [believers] who had been scattered went from place to place preaching the word [the good news of salvation through Christ]. Philip [the evangelist] went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed) to them. The crowds gathered and were paying close attention to everything Philip said, as they heard [the message] and saw the [miraculous] signs which he was doing [validating his message]. For unclean spirits (demons), shouting loudly, were coming out of many who were possessed; and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. So there was great rejoicing in that city”.

“**scatter**” = Greek *diaspeiro* - “to scatter abroad; to sow throughout”

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Psalm 116:15 (NIV) - “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants”.

Psalm 116:15 (AMP) - “Precious [and of great consequence] in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones [so He watches over them]”.

Daniel 4:34b-35 (NIV) – “His dominion is an eternal dominion; His kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as He pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back His hand or say to Him, ‘What have you done?’”

Acts 8:26-29 (AMP) – But an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go south to the road that runs from Jerusalem down to Gaza”. (This is a desert road). So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch [a man of great authority], a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship, and he was returning, and sitting in his chariot he was reading [the scroll of] the prophet Isaiah. Then the [Holy] Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and join this chariot”.

“If Christ is hindered, it is because some Philip is not willing to go” – **G. Campbell Morgan**

John 10:10 (NKJV) – “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly”.

“We have seen Him, from the day of Pentecost on, moving on multitudes; we now trace His motions in the individual, and see Him in His individual dealing and leading – observing how He guides one believer and leads one inquirer” – **Arthur T. Pierson**

Acts 8:30-31 (AMP) – Philip ran up and heard the man reading the prophet Isaiah, and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “Well, how could I [understand] unless someone guides me [correctly]?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

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Acts 8:34-38 (AMP) – The eunuch replied to Philip, “Please tell me, about whom does the prophet say this? About himself or about someone else?” Then Philip spoke and beginning with this Scripture he preached Jesus to him [explaining that He is the promised Messiah and the source of salvation]. As they continued along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch exclaimed, “Look! Water! What forbids me from being baptized?” [Philip said to him, “If you believe with all your heart, you may”. And he replied, “I do believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”.] And he ordered that the chariot be stopped; and both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

Acts 8:39-40 (AMP) – “When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord [suddenly] took Philip [and carried him] away [to a different place]; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the good news [of salvation] to all the cities, until he came to Caesarea [Maritima]”.