

## Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

June 9, 2019

### Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: I Kings 10:1-13

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message: *Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch* (Acts 8:26-40)

### Announcements:

**Lucio Gudmalin** is home with the Lord, singing for Him in person. Please remember his family in prayer, and his daughter Mai as she flew to the Philippines for the funeral.

**Our spring picnic is today!** As you pull out of the church parking lot, turn right on Sauk Trail, drive east 3.5 miles to Burnham Avenue. Turn right and drive south .7 miles to Plum Creek Forest Preserve. The entrance is on your left.

**June 30<sup>th</sup>** we will begin a study of *The Book of Acts*.

**Midweek Bible Study:** Wednesday at 7 but call Steve first

**Our offering box** is located just left of the kitchen door.

**Pick up** today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

## Acts 8:5-25 *Philip and The Good Samaritans*

“Philip” (Acts 8:5) was a member of the Jewish kingdom church in Jerusalem. He left Jerusalem for Samaria to escape Saul’s persecution (8:1-4), *not* to fulfil the Great Commission (Acts 1:8). Jerusalem had to be “filled” with salvation before Samaria could be fed (Mark 7:27).

The word “scattered” (8:1,4) is always associated with *judgment* (Lev.26:14,33). It’s used three times to emphasize that God was judging people in Genesis 11 at the Tower of Babel, and twice here to emphasize that God was judging Jerusalem for stoning Stephen.

The Lord told the Jews this would happen (Lu.13:28-30). The Samaritans were the “last” people you’d expect to see in the Jews’ kingdom, while the Jews were the “first.” But when Jerusalem didn’t believe and Samaria did, the last became first, and the first became last.

Samaria’s faith was amazing since they were bewitched by a sorcerer (8:9). Giving out that he was “some great one” should remind you of Antichrist (IIThe.2:3,4). Men like Simon were known as antichrists (IJo.2:18). So Acts 8 is a picture of what the world will look like after the Rapture when antichrists like Simon are claiming to be Christ, as the Lord predicted (Mt.24:3,4).

All Samaria wondered after Simon just as all the world will wonder after Antichrist (Rev.13:3; 17:8). But some will still believe during the Tribulation, as we see in the type here in Samaria. Simon bewitched them “long time” (8:11), which can mean a little over three years (John 14:8,9)—about the time Antichrist will bewitch Israel in the first half of the Tribulation.

The Samaritans believed the gospel of the kingdom, the gospel that said you had to be baptized to be saved (8:12). That’s the gospel that will be preached when Antichrist is here (Mt.24:14,15). Men will “flee to the mountains” to escape him, just as Philip fled to “the mountains of Samaria” (Amos 3:9) to escape Saul, who was a type of the Antichrist.

But how could Simon be a type of these lesser antichrists if he believed and was baptized (8:13)? It is because he didn't believe to the saving of the soul (Heb.10:39), but rather like the men in John 2:23-25 and John 8:30. He believed in a shallow way for a shallow reason—probably to learn how Philip did greater miracles than he did.

You see, Simon worked those sorcery-type miracles because it was *enriching* him to be known as “the great power of God.” If he could learn to do the greater miracles Philip did, he'd make *more* money when Philip left town. That's a type of how false christs in the Tribulation will *also* infiltrate the synagogues of the saints for money (II Peter 2:1,14,15). Antichrist will put a bounty on the heads of those saints and those false christs will ingratiate themselves with the saints to “make merchandise” of them (IIPet.2:3). They are compared to “Balaam” who made his money by *cursing the Jews*.

Why would the 12 send Peter and John to Samaria (8:14)? It was because Samaria wasn't supposed to believe before Jerusalem, so they had to sanction this, just as they later had to sanction it when *the Gentiles* believed before Jerusalem under Paul's ministry (Acts 15; Galatians 2:1-9).

That's why the Samaritans didn't receive the Spirit when they believed (8:15-17). That was God's way of saying they needed the sanction of the 12 to come give them the Spirit before they were accepted by God. You see, Samaritans believed they could worship God in the wrong place (John 4:20), and they had to recognize the authority of Jerusalem.

Did you notice Peter detected that Simon was a false prophet *by his words* (8:18-20)? That's how Tribulation saints will detect false prophets as well (IJo.4:1-3). People think the ability to work miracles proves that a man is of God, but only the words that come out of a man's mouth can prove that.

As corrupt as Simon was, if he repented he could still be saved (8:20-22). That's a picture of how it will be for those false christs in the Tribulation. Until they take the mark of the beast they can be forgiven if they repent. By the way, that also proves that unsaved people *aren't* forgiven as some say.

# Faith Bible Church

[www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com](http://www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com)

June 9, 2019

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

*Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart*

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

*Pastor Ricky Kurth*

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

*Myrtle Harrison*

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

*Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger*

Faith Bible Church

560 East Sauk Trail

Steger, Illinois 60475

708-758-7780

Pastor Ricky Kurth

414-719-0548 (cell)

Pastorkurth @msn.com