

1

## On the Right Road: the Ethiopian & Philip 4/30

### Philip: One of the Seven!

1. Acts 6:5 chosen with the other men "*full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip.*" (NIV)
2. Acts 8: 4-5 Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. (NIV)
3. Acts 8: 39-40 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea. (NIV)
4. *Then, years later:* Acts 21:8-9 Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the Seven. He had four unmarried daughters who prophesied. (NIV)

Note: <sup>37</sup>[And Philip said, "*If you believe with all your heart, you may.*" And he answered and said, "*I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.*" (KJV)] not in most Bibles, and not a proof text for Baptism! Unlike Simon, who 'believed' but not with a truthful/whole heart.

When I say Ethiopia, what do you think of? **Runners?**

### Think: the Eunuch:

- ... from Africa,
- ... from the courts of Queen Candace,
- ... head of the national Treasury of Ethiopia,

- ... proselyte to Judaism, a covert to the faith and a follower of some of the Jewish practices, customs and culture as a way of life, but in the dark as to the meaning,
  - ... well learned man,
  - ... free to travel,
  - ... after this fact, brought the Faith into Northern Africa.
- Same as Simon  
Responded to the **Light**
  - Different from Simon
    - ✓ Looking in the right places-**a seeker of God.**
    - ✓ Had the heart of worship-**goes to Temple.**
    - ✓ He questioned what he was reading
    - ✓ Came to the Lord via the Word of God
    - ✓ Open to the teachings of Scripture
    - ✓ Open to obedience from the start-**here is water.**
    - ✓ Had a heart of thankfulness-**rejoiced.**
    - ✓ Rejoicing in Spirit-**evidence of being full.**
  - Found elsewhere in Scripture
    - ✓ David: **Heart toward God/friend of God**
    - ✓ Joseph: **Kept Faith in His father's God**
    - ✓ Samuel: **Heard the voice of God since youth**
    - ✓ Daniel: **No way to dishonor self with bad food**

✓ Esther: *Your God to be my God*

- What we can learn from this story/from this service today. **It is not a teen thing...all ages!**  
The man from Northern Africa/the young man from Japan\England/the older person from anywhere...**Let God be God in your life &...1<sup>st</sup> place**
- Look in the right places-**seek truth.** Seek & find.
- Have a heart of worship-**active worshipper.**
- Question with a heart of Faith-**not blind.**
- Come to the Lord through the Word-**always.**
- Be obedient from the start—**pass this on.**
- Be thankful in all things-**no matter what!** *the letters I get from a wife of a man with a stroke!*
- Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!-**Time to thank God!**  
Let it **be your practice** to be in **the mindset** to **give Him praise** and to have a **thankful heart**-  
always! *"May the Mind of Christ our Savior..."*

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**What prevents you from being baptized?**