

Preaching to the Eunuch

TEXT: Acts 8:26-40

INTRODUCTION:

A. CIRCUMSTANCE OF PHILIP'S CONTACT WITH THE EUNUCH.

1. Philip was called by the Spirit (vs. 26).
2. Preachers today are called by the Great Commission (Mark 16:15).
3. The angel came not to the Eunuch.

B. PHILIP PREACHED UNTO HIM JESUS (vs. 35).

1. The preaching of the gospel is God's instrument (1 Cor. 1:21; 2 Thess. 2:14).
2. Philip's text is a well known OT passage – Isaiah 53 (vs. 32-35).
3. He found opportunity in the Eunuch's search (vs. 30-31, 34).

C. WHAT DID IT MEAN TO PHILIP TO PREACH JESUS ON THIS DAY?

I. HE PREACHED FROM THE SCRIPTURES.

A. WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT JESUS?

1. TV programs (The Family of Jesus).
2. Movies (The Greatest Story, The Last Temptation, Super Star).
3. Traditional beliefs (Wisemen, etc.).

B. WHY NOT RELY ON EYEWITNESS AND INSPIRED ACCOUNTS?

1. Peter and John (2 Pet. 1:16-18; 1 John 1:1). SAW AND HEARD
2. Paul and the rest (Gal. 1:10; Luke 1:2). BY REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST.

II. HE PREACHED FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT.

A. WHAT WAS THE AIM OF OT TEACHING? (Gal. 3:23-25).

B. WHAT DID THE OT CONTAIN? (John 5:39-40, 45-47).

1. The testimony of the prophets (1 Pet. 1:10-12; Acts 3:18, 24).
2. Fulfilled in Jesus (Acts 26:22-23; Luke 24:44-48).
3. Agrippa's conversion hung on his belief of the prophets (Acts 26:27).

WHICH ONES?

C. CONFIRMATION OF THE APOSTLE'S TESTIMONY (2 Pet. 1:19-21),
AND THE PROMISES OF GOD (Rom. 15:4).

III. WHAT DID ISAIAH SAY ABOUT JESUS? (Isa. 52:13 – 53:1-12).

A. NOT WHAT WAS EXPECTED (52:13-15).

1. Exalted and lifted up.
2. Astonished by his marred visage. Startle the nations.

B. A ROOT OUT OF A DRY GROUND (53:1-3).

1. Humble background (Mark 6:1-3; John 1:46).
2. Nothing that suggested royalty – Despised and rejected – A man of sorrows.

C. HIS DIVINE MISSION (53:4-6).

1. "...bourne our griefs and carried our sorrows – smitten of God, and afflicted."
2. "wounded for our transgressions, ...bruised for our iniquities..."
3. "...the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."
4. "...laid on him the iniquity of us all."
5. 53:11-12.

IV. NEW TESTAMENT APPLICATIONS.

- A. ISAIAH QUOTED AND APPLIED (1 Pet. 2:21-24).
- B. THE CHASTISEMENT OF OUR PEACE.
 - 1. At enmity because of sin (Rom 5:10).
 - 2. Reconciled thru his death (2 Cor. 5:18-21).
- C. HOW DOES IT WORK (Rom. 3:23-26).
 - 1. All have sinned (Rom. 3:23) – the result (6:23).
 - 2. "...justified freely by his grace, ..."
 - 3. "...thru the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: ..."
 - 4. "...set forth to be a propitiation, ...in his blood..."
 - 5. "...to show his righteousness because of the passing of sins done aforetime ..." and
"...at this present season ..."
 - 6. "... THAT HE MIGHT HIMSELF BE JUST AND THE JUSTIFIER OF HIM
THAT HATH FAITH IN JESUS." THRU FAITH!
- D. IT WORKS FOR EVERYONE (2 Cor. 5:14-15; Heb. 2:9).

V. GRACE DEMANDS A RESPONSE.

- A. IT COME BRINGING SALVATION TO ALL (Titus 2:11).
- B. IT CAN BE REFUSED OR NEGLECTED (2 Cor. 6:1-2).
- C. THOSE WHO CRUCIFIED JESUS REJECTED.
 - 1. Isa. 53:1-3. Prophesied rejection by the Jews.
 - 2. Rom. 10:16. Paul confirmed the fulfillment.
 - 3. vs. 17. Salvation is in hearing and doing.

VI. HOW DID THE EUNUCH RESPOND?

- A. Acts 8:36. WHY DID HE WANT TO BE BAPTIZED?
- B. IT IS THE SAME AS PREVIOUS RESPONSES (Acts 2:41; 8:12).
- C. PREACHING JESUS INCLUDES PREACHING WHAT JESUS SAID (Mark 16:16).

CONCLUSION:

- A. AS WE CAN SEE, THE OLD TESTAMENT IS AN IMPORTANT FAITH BUILDER FOR THOSE WHO SEEK THE TRUTH.
 - 1. It tells of the Christ and his sacrifice – long beforehand.
 - 2. It gives credence to the gospel message.
 - 3. Leaders who neglect the OT in their teaching only serve half the meal.
- B. HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO THE PREACHING OF JESUS?