

Cases of Conversion

The Ethiopian Eunuch One Who Believed With All His Heart That Jesus Is The Son of God v2

Introduction

- Many believe they are saved and are sincerely devoted to God
- They can relate to you what they have done to be saved
- But, what they have done to be saved, is often in conflict with the cases of conversion we can read about in the book of Acts

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Introduction

- Instead of trusting in what we have done to be saved, we should trust in the examples that have been left for us taught by the apostles and evangelists guided by the Holy Spirit
- We should follow the examples of those who heard and obeyed the inspired teaching so we know for sure we are saved in the way that pleases God

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Introduction

- The Ethiopian eunuch was devoted to the Law of Moses, what he believed was right in serving God
- But, he was one searching for truth who had a humble honest heart
- And, when he was told about Jesus and what he needed to do to be saved, did not hesitate to obey from the heart the gospel of Christ

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The Lord sends Philip to preach to the eunuch

- The Lord uses an angel to command Philip to go to the eunuch
- After arriving, the Holy Spirit directs Philip to go up and meet the eunuch's chariot
- No miracle is applied directly to the eunuch
- Philip preaches the soul-saving gospel that he must hear, believe and obey

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The Lord sends Philip to preach to the eunuch

- The eunuch was a court official of the Ethiopian queen being in charge of her treasure
- More importantly, he was a religious man devoted to serving God, willing to journey to Jerusalem to worship
- He was either a Jew or a proselyte, a Gentile following the Law of Moses

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The Lord sends Philip to preach to the eunuch

Act 8:26 But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert *road*.)

Act 8:27 So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship,

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The Lord sends Philip to preach to the eunuch

Act 8:28 and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah.

Act 8:29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot."

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

- The eunuch wanted to know what the passage in Isaiah 53 meant and was willing to listen to Philip explain it
- Philip starts at that point preaching Jesus to him
- This included Jesus' death, burial, resurrection and exaltation as Lord
- It also included what Jesus commands people to do in order to be forgiven

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

- To be forgiven, all, including the eunuch, must believe in Jesus as the Son of God to the point of repenting of sins and being baptized, immersed in water, for the forgiveness of sins
- We cannot preach Jesus without preaching baptism for forgiveness of sins

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

Act 8:30 Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

Act 8:31 And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

Act 8:32 Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this: "HE WAS LED AS A SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER; AND AS A LAMB BEFORE ITS SHEARER IS SILENT, SO HE DOES NOT OPEN HIS MOUTH."

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

Act 8:33 "IN HUMILIATION HIS JUDGMENT WAS TAKEN AWAY; WHO WILL RELATE HIS GENERATION? FOR HIS LIFE IS REMOVED FROM THE EARTH."

Act 8:34 The eunuch answered Philip and said, "Please *tell me*, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?"

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

Act 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

Act 8:5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and *began* proclaiming Christ to them.

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The gospel message the eunuch heard

Act 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

- The message about Jesus and salvation moved the eunuch to want to be baptized
- There is no sinner's prayer here
- But Philip tells the eunuch his baptism must be based on his belief in Jesus as the Son of God
- Many deeply believe Jesus is Lord but do not believe Jesus commands them to be baptized to be saved

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

- The confession of the truth that Jesus is the Son of God is the foundation on which Jesus built His church
- But what does being the Son of God mean?
- He is equal in nature with the Father
- The Father has entrusted Him with all authority over heaven and earth

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What it means that Jesus is the Son of God

Mat 16:16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Mat 16:17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

Mat 16:18 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

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What it means that Jesus is the Son of God

Joh 5:17 But He answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I Myself am working."

Joh 5:18 For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him, because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

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What it means that Jesus is the Son of God

Act 13:32 "And we preach to you the good news of the promise made to the fathers,

Act 13:33 that God has fulfilled this *promise* to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, 'YOU ARE MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU.'

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

- Both confessing Jesus as the Son of God and being baptized are directly related to faith, believing the Word to the point of trusting the Lord to obey Him and receiving the forgiveness of sins
- Those who try to separate baptism from faith and the forgiveness of sins do not understand that obedience to the gospel is the display of a saving faith in Jesus

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

- The eunuch was baptized immediately because his salvation depended on it
- Baptism accomplished by total immersion in water not sprinkling or pouring
- The eunuch rejoiced in his salvation
- When he was baptized, he died, was buried and raised with Christ
- He was not baptized into a local church or any group of local churches

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

Act 8:36 As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch *said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

Act 8:37 [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."]

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

Rom 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;

Rom 10:10 for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

Act 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.

Act 8:39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

Col 2:11 and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;

Col 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

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The eunuch's response to the gospel

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

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