



**Synopsis**

*A snapshot of the chapter*

Acts 8 begins with a period of persecution against Christians by Saul. The preaching of Philip to people in Samaria follows. Many miracles were done which produced joy in that city. The church in Jerusalem sent Peter and John to lay hands on some brethren so that they could also do miracles. One of the believers named Simon, previously a sorcerer, maliciously desired to obtain the ability possessed by Peter and John to distribute miraculous power to others. He was severely rebuked and told to repent. Philip was then called to go toward Gaza where he would find an Ethiopian nobleman. He was to preach to him the gospel. When he did, the man was baptized and went on his way rejoicing.

**Observation**—What do you see?

*Important Person(s):*

*Main Event(s):*

**Study Questions:**

1. *To what extent did Saul persecute Christians? Are we persecuted today?*
2. *What did Philip preach to the people of Samaria that led them to Christ?*
3. *What was Simon’s great sin? What did he need to do to correct?*
4. *What was the Ethiopian doing when Philip found him? What was he reading?*
5. *How does this passage help our understanding of what baptism is?*

**Questions:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.