

## Let Them Hear

Lesson Two • Acts 8:9-24

### A Faith That Does Not Save

#### Simon the Sorcerer

Simon appeared to be a TRUE believer in Jesus Christ, but was exposed to be a FALSE believer who never was truly saved.

*Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip. Acts 8:13*

*But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God." Acts 8:20-21*

#### A Warning for All

Simon is a warning that there is a "FAITH" that does not save; it is false faith not saving faith.

*"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven. Matthew 7:21*

#### A Faith That Does Not Save

## 1. Is A "Faith" That Is Mere AMAZEMENT!

#### *Saving Faith Is More than Amazement*

Simon AMAZED people with his magic and now he was AMAZED at the miracles Philip performed.

*Now there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great, to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God." And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time. Acts 8:9-11*

*Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done. Acts 8:13*

## 2. Is A "Faith" That Is in Jesus Christ AND . . . !

#### *The Object of Simon's Faith*

Simon appeared to believe in Jesus Christ but what he really believed in was the MIRACLES he saw not the Messiah they pointed to.

*But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done. Acts 8:12-13*

## 3. Is A "Faith" That Is Not Sealed with the HOLY SPIRIT!

#### *God's Power Is Not for Sale*

Simon viewed the Holy Spirit as a commodity to be BOUGHT rather than a gift to be received.

*Now when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit." But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! Acts 8:18-20*

## 4. Is A "Faith" That Is Rooted in an UNREPENTANT Heart!

#### *What Simon Was Missing*

Simon was missing a recognition of his SINFULNESS and a willingness to turn to Jesus for FORGIVENESS.

*You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you." Acts 8:21-22*

#### **Do You Have a Faith That Saves?**

A faith that saves involves REPENTANCE of sin and TRUST in Jesus Christ alone, evidenced by the indwelling Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation.