



Introduction

Believers flee because of persecution (v 1).

Persecution makes the believers scatter taking the message wherever they go.



Questions

1. What was the result of Saul's persecution of the assembly in Jerusalem?
2. What did Simon think he could buy from Peter and John?
3. What did the eunuch want to do after Philip explained about Jesus?

Summary Points

- **v 1 to 3** Saul increases the persecution of the believers. Believers scatter throughout Judea and Samaria
- **v 4 to 8** Philip goes and preaches to the Samaritans (see information)
- **v 9 to 24** A sorcerer called Simon becomes a believer. He sees that the apostles can give the Holy Spirit to people who have been baptised and asks to buy the same power. Peter reprimands him and tells him to repent
- **v 25 to 40** Philip is sent to speak to an Ethiopian eunuch. He is reading from the prophet Isaiah (ch. 53 v 7 and 8). Philip explains so convincingly how this applies to Jesus that when the Ethiopian sees water he asks to be baptised (see theme)

Timeline AD 60 (see below)

Theme / Information

The importance of belief and baptism

A selection of verses showing the importance of belief and baptism.

Jesus instructs his apostles to teach others what he has taught them. Belief is confirmed by the act of baptism – total immersion in water:

Matthew 28 verses 18 to 20

Jesus' instruction in Mark's gospel shows that both belief and baptism are essential for salvation:

Mark 16 verses 15 and 16

Peter explains that the ceremony of baptism is not just like having a bath. It must be the response that God requires to the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

1 Peter 3 verse 21

When people in Samaria believed following the preaching of Philip, they were all baptised:

Acts 8 verse 12



The same thing happened when the Philippian jailor and his family believed after an earthquake caused chaos in the prison:

Acts 16 verses 29 to 33

It is interesting to note that Cornelius, and others with him, who also believe Peter's preaching, are given Holy Spirit gifts. However, baptism - immersion in water – is still required.

Acts 10 verses 46 to 48

Philip's travels





? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 4, Q 2: v 19, Q 3: v 36

Bible timeline

