"PREACHING THE WORD"

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INTRODUCTION

TEXT:

- 1. "They that were scattered abroad, went about preaching the word" (8:4).
- 2. Jesus' final instruction for spreading the gospel (Acts 1:6-8)
- 3. Great Commission (Matt 28:18; Mark 16:15-16).
- 4. From this we want to consider:
 - a. What was the word preached and
 - b. What were the results?

GOD'S WAY FOR..

- A. SAVING: "*it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching to save them that believe.*" (I Cor. 1:21).
 - 1. It has been said that God could save man any way He wanted to...which is true.
 - 2. And God choose the word to save man. (James 1:21).
- B. RECONCILIATION:
 - 1. "But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and gave unto us the ministry of reconciliation; to wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not reckoning unto them their trespasses, and having committed unto us the <u>word of reconciliation</u>. (II Cor. 5:18,19).
 - 2. "And he came and preached peace to you that were far off, and peace to them that were nigh:" (Eph. 2:17).
- C. "For the word of God is living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and quick to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Heb. 4:12).

WHAT WAS PREACHED?

- A. "they therefore that were scattered abroad went about preaching the word"
 - 1. What is meant by "the Word"
 - 2. Paul's charge to Timothy "preach the word" (II Tim. 4:2).
 - 3. "If any man teacheth a different doctrine, and consenteth not to sound words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the doctrine which is according to godliness".. (I Tim. 6:3).
- B. "Every scripture is inspired of God...(II Tim. 3:16,17).
 - 1. Obey the truth...the word of God...<u>I Peter 1;22-25. Read</u>
 - 2. Saved by the word -James 1:21 And the gospel is God's power to save <u>Romans 1:;16</u>...Then the word that is to be preached, believed and obeyed Is the gospel of Christ....(Acts 8:35..Preached unto him Jesus)

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THE RESULTS

A. THE SAMARITIANS:

- 1. They received the word of God. v. 14
- 2. Baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus v. 16.
- B. SIMON THE SORCERER:
 - 1. And Simon himself believed...
 - 2. And being baptized...
- (B. On Holy Spirit).
 - 1. Questions on receiving the Holy Spirit. Confusion between gift of Holy Spirit (Acts 2:;38) and Miraculous gifts per I Corinthians 14.
 - 2. These, since they had been baptized into Christ (v. 16) had received the gift per Acts 2:38 (If not why not).
 - 3. Had not received Holy Spirit in miraculous gifts per I Cor. 14.
 - 4. Apostles came down from Jerusalem, laid hands on them and they received Holy Spirit, power to do miracles and to receive truth. (The only way this power of Holy Spirit could be received) no other example or teaching in Bible.
 - 5. Purpose; To build up and edify (I Cor. 14).
 - 6. Philip called away...They were not left alone, had the Holy spirit to guide them.
- C. ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH:
 - 1. Did you ever wonder why God included this story. About just one man?
 - 2. What do we learn from it?
 - a. Importance of Baptism. First Question he asked.
 - b. The how of baptism...went down into the was as in Romans 6.
 - c. Went on his way rejoicing.
 - 3. <u>An Open Case Of Conversion:</u>
 - a. Case of open opportunity.
 - b. Case of open Bible . v. 28
 - c. Case of open Heart. vs. 30-34.
 - d. Case of open confession v. 36
 - e. Case of open Baptism
 - (1). What hinders me
 - (2). Take vote, wait a while etc.
 - (3). "believe...."
 - f. An Open Life....Rejoicing

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CONCLUSION

- A. As in the lesson of the sower and the seed-
 - 1. When the word of God is preached and obeyed
 - 2. It will always bring forth good fruit.
- B. NEED TO BE CAREFUL
 - 1. As to what we preach
 - 2. As to what we hear
 - 3. As to what we obey!