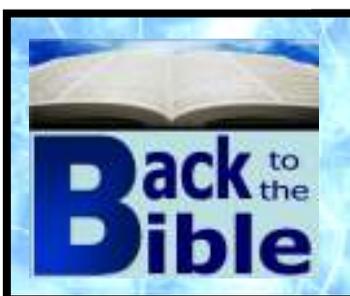


**Today's Sermons**  
 Morning: The Four Chairs  
 Evening: Q & A

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	33
Sunday AM Worship	49
Sunday PM Worship	26
Wed. Bible Study	35
Offering	\$1707



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**Times of Services:**

Sunday  
 Bible Study:.... 10:00am  
 AM Worship:..11:00am  
 PM Worship:...6:00pm  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday  
 Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program  
 Sunday:.....7:30am  
 "Back to the Bible"  
 AM 580 WSKK  
 93.5 FM

**We Extend A  
 Warm & Cordial  
 Welcome  
 To All Our  
 Visitors!**

**WHAT KIND OF PREACHER WAS PHILIP?**

Roger D. Campbell

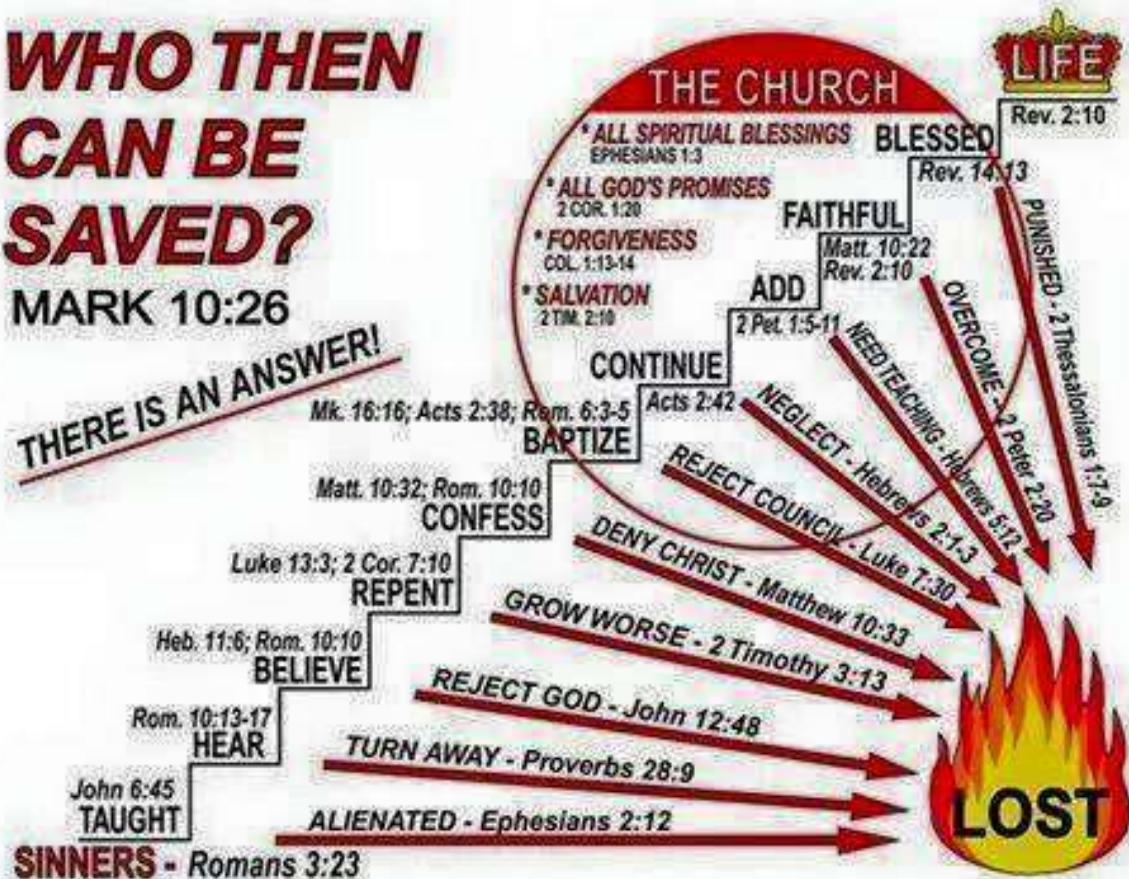
There was one follower of the Christ named Philip who was an apostle (Luke 6:12,13). There was a different disciple by that same name that was not an apostle (Acts 8:1,4,5). The Holy Spirit describes him (the non-apostle) as "Philip the evangelist" (Acts 21:8). While Philip the apostle is indirectly mentioned numerous times in the Book of Acts when the Bible records the activities of the apostles, God's word actually gives us more specific information about Philip the evangelist. What kind of preacher was this man Philip?

(1) **Philip was a preacher who had a good reputation in the church.** Is it possible for someone to be held in high esteem even though his heart is not right in the sight of God? (Acts 8:21). It is. Yes, people can be deceived into praising a renegade. Philip, however, was no renegade that pulled the wool over the eyes of the unsuspecting. When the apostles decided that seven men were needed to serve neglected widows, the instruction was given for the disciples to choose "*men of honest report [good reputation, NKJV], full of the Holy Ghost, and wisdom*" (Acts 6:3). The selection of the seven,

*Continued Inside*

**WHO THEN  
 CAN BE  
 SAVED?  
 MARK 10:26**

**THERE IS AN ANSWER!**



including Philip, was based on their character. No preacher of the gospel can be effective unless he sets forth “*a pattern of good works*” (Titus 2:7). He may be a splendid orator, but unless he has a well-deserved reputation as a man of godly character, he will be a dead weight to the local church and its efforts to evangelize its area.

**(2) Philip preached the right message.** In Samaria, he preached the Christ (Acts 8:4). Since the Samaritans received his preaching, and the Bible says they received “the word of God” (Acts 8:14), then it is plain that (1) Philip did not preach his own ideas, but rather God’s word, and (2) to “preach the Christ” is the same thing as to “preach the word.” That is the Holy Spirit’s charge to everyone that wants to be a true evangelist: “*Preach the word*” (2 Timothy 4:2). I have heard first-hand accounts of people attending a congregation and over a five-year period of time never hearing a lesson on marriage and divorce or the evils of immodest clothing and man-made religions. Some preachers are reported to have the speaking skill to hold an audience in the palm of their hand. If so, they are blessed with a powerful ability. But, what good is that if they will not preach the whole counsel of God?! (Acts 20:27). Philip preached the right message.

**(3) Philip preached the right message even when “the big boys” were not around.** Because of an intense persecution, except for the apostles, all the disciples were forced to leave Jerusalem (Acts 8:1). Philip was one of the scattered ones that went preaching the word (Acts 8:4,5). When he first went to preach in Samaria, there were no apostles there. He was not preaching the truth in order to please or impress them. He was preaching the truth because that is what true preachers do, regardless of which “big name” preachers might be present or absent. There is way too much preaching for show that goes on in the church today. It smells.

**(4) Philip was willing to go teach one person.** Philip’s preaching in Samaria had resulted in conversions, including Simon the former sorcerer (Acts 8:12,13). Surely it would have been pleasant to stay there and keep it going, but the Lord had other plans. He sent this word to Philip: “*Arise, and go toward the south . . .*” The next verse says, “*And he arose and went . . .*” (Acts 8:27). Philip was willing to go to a desert place to teach one precious soul. God’s preachers need to be able to step out of the pulpit and into people’s living rooms (or chariots, as in the case of the eunuch, Acts 8:29-31). No, it is not “the preacher’s job” to conduct every private Bible study, but if you run across a preacher that is not comfortable being in close contact with people and is not interested in teaching one-on-one, he is not akin to the evangelists of the first century. He certainly does not resemble Philip. Or Paul. Or Timothy. Or Jesus.

**(5) Philip literally ran to his next preaching assignment.** He may not have done so on other occasions, but the Bible says that he “ran” to where the eunuch was (Acts 8:30). Don’t you love the excitement he had because of the chance to teach the lost?! We need evangelists that are on fire to preach the word! We need gospel preachers that live in order to preach rather than preach in order to live.

Was Philip perfect? No way. But he did demonstrate some qualities that all Christians, especially gospel preachers, need to emulate. May God give us more evangelists like His servant Philip.

*"In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, <sup>14</sup>having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it" (Colossians 2:11-15).*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Aug 13 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Class
- Aug 27 – Song Service
- Sept 3 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Class
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell