

## Sermon Handout

### Good Questions Acts 8:26-40

#### I. The Eunuch & the Hellenist

- a. A rendezvous on a desert road v. 26
- b. The Eunuch
  - i. An important official of Sudan v. 27a – 27b *See* Ps 68:31
  - ii. A eunuch *See* Dt 23:1; Isa 56:3-8
  - iii. A “God-fearer” visiting Jerusalem v. 27c  
*See* 10:1-2; 13:16, 26 (*contra* v. 43); 16:14; 17:4, 17; 18:7
- c. Philip the Hellenist
  - i. The agent of God initiating ministries outside Jerusalem  
Samaria vv. 5-13  
A Gentile of Africa vv. 26-39  
Other Gentile cities v. 40
  - ii. Sent by the Spirit to meet the eunuch vv. 26, 29

#### II. A Conversation on the Gaza Road

- a. A parallel story – Luke 24:13-35 (*cf.* v. 37 w/ v. 35 here)
- b. Philip’s approach is divinely directed vv. 26, 29-30
- c. Reading aloud the prophet Isaiah in Greek v. 28 *cf.* 32-33
- d. The conversation
  - i. Philip asks the first question v. 30
  - ii. The eunuch answers with two questions vv. 31, 34
  - iii. Philip is ready with an answer (I Peter 3:15) *See* Lk 24:27; 44-47
- e. The eunuch believes and is baptized vv. 36-39 (*cf.* Rom 10:9; Mk 16:15-16)

#### III. The Beginning of Gentile Conversions

- a. The African eunuch Acts 8
- b. Cornelius Acts 10-11 (*cf.* 15:7)
- c. The calling of Saul/Paul to minister to the Gentiles Acts 9 *cf.* 28:28; Eph 3:1-6  
Both Philip & Paul are “of the dispersion”  
– tools chosen by God to expand the ministry into the “whole world.”