

The Ethiopian Eunuch

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Introduction:

The NT reveals the process whereby an individual comes to be a Christian. Jesus spoke of one being “born anew” (Jn. 3:1-6) and the apostle John referred to this new birth as being “begotten” and named “children of God” (I Jn. 2:29-3:1). The gospel of Jesus Christ does the “calling” (II Thess. 3:14ff) that one may be “begotten of God” (cf. I Cor. 4:15). To be recognized as a son of God one must hear, believe, repent, confess Christ, and be baptized for the remission of sins (cf. Gal. 3:26-27). A Christian is one who has been “delivered out of darkness and translated into the kingdom of the Son of his love” (Col. 1:13-14). This morning, we shall examine a case of conversion in the NT (The Ethiopian Eunuch) that will help us understand how one becomes a Christian.

I. Philip’s purpose for traveling to Gaza (Acts 8:26-29):

- A. Philip was an evangelist (Acts 21:8).
- B. Philip immediately obeys the voice of the angel and travels to Gaza (Acts 8:27).
- C. Philip finds an Ethiopian eunuch who was returning from worshipping in Jerusalem. The eunuch was reading from Isaiah 53:7-8.
- D. Philip seizes the opportunity to preach the gospel.

II. Philip preaches the gospel to the Eunuch (Acts 8:30-35):

- A. Philip “preached unto him Jesus” (Acts 8:35).
- B. Peter had earlier preached Jesus on Pentecost concluding that those who were lost should be baptized (Acts 2:36-38).
- C. Peter and Philip reach the same conclusion (i.e., baptism):
 1. Philip therefore preached that Jesus had been crucified, buried, and resurrected from the dead so that we might have the redemption of our sins (Gal. 3:13; Col. 1:14).
 2. Philip made it clear that the eunuch was in sin and in need of redemption.
 3. Philip preached that Jesus now sits at the right hand of God ruling His kingdom, the church, and ever living to provide redemption (Col. 1:13).
 4. Philip preached that in order for one to become a citizen of Jesus’ kingdom he must be baptized for the remission of his sins (Acts 8:36b-39).
 5. No doubt Philip preached continued obedience to the Lord so that the eunuch would not lose his salvation (cf. II Jn. 9).

III. The Eunuch’s Response to Philip’s Preaching (Acts 8:36-39):

- A. The eunuch displayed **interests** in that he was reading from the word of God (Acts 8:28).
- B. The eunuch displayed **humility** in his asking Philip to “guide” him (Acts 8:31).
- C. The eunuch came to understand that he needed to be baptized to receive the remission of his sins and so **obeyed** the Lord’s request (Acts 8:36-39).

Conclusion:

Where else can man go to find out what he needs to do to be saved from the eternal consequences of sinful living than the Word of God? So many today have made up their own

formulas for entering into the kingdom of God; however, their schemes are not found in the NT. Why not take the Word of God alone and discover that one must hear, believe, confess the name of Christ, repent of past sins, and be baptized for the remission of sins to be saved? The gospel will save if you allow it to do its powerful work (Rom. 1:16).