

The Gospel Comes to Samaria



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- Samaritans are descended from Jews left over from Assyrian diaspora, who intermarried Gentiles
- Samaritan religion similar to Judaism, but has a few distinctives



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- Samaritans view Mt Gerizim as the most holy site rather than the Jerusalem Temple Mount.
- Became increasingly differentiated and hostile as a result of Hasmonean occupation.
- Samaritan religion devoid of elements that would become the Rabbinic/Talmudic apostasy

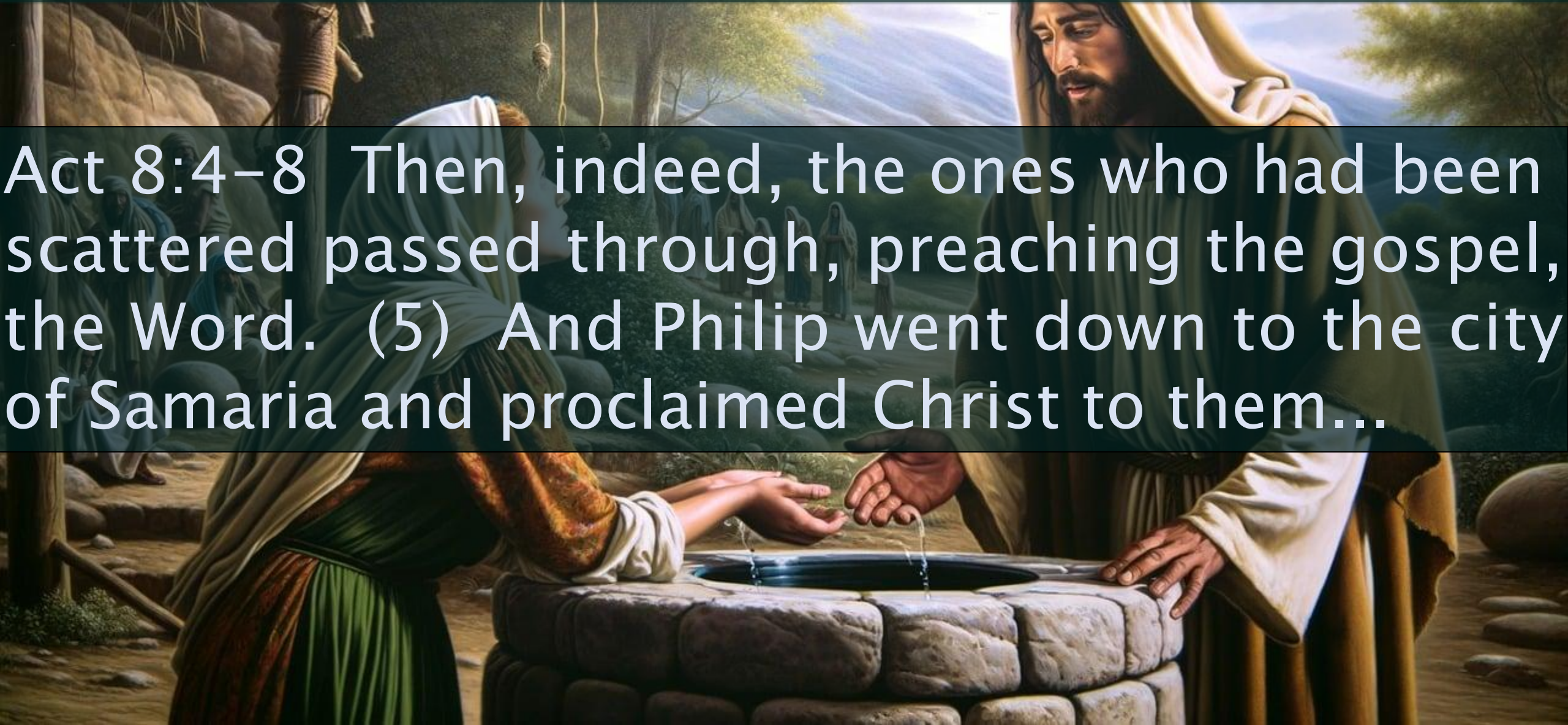
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- Phillip the Deacon and Evangelist
- Simon Magus the Gnostic
- Phillip and the Ethiopian Eunuch



Phillip Powerfully Evangelizes

Act 8:4–8 Then, indeed, the ones who had been scattered passed through, preaching the gospel, the Word. (5) And Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed Christ to them...

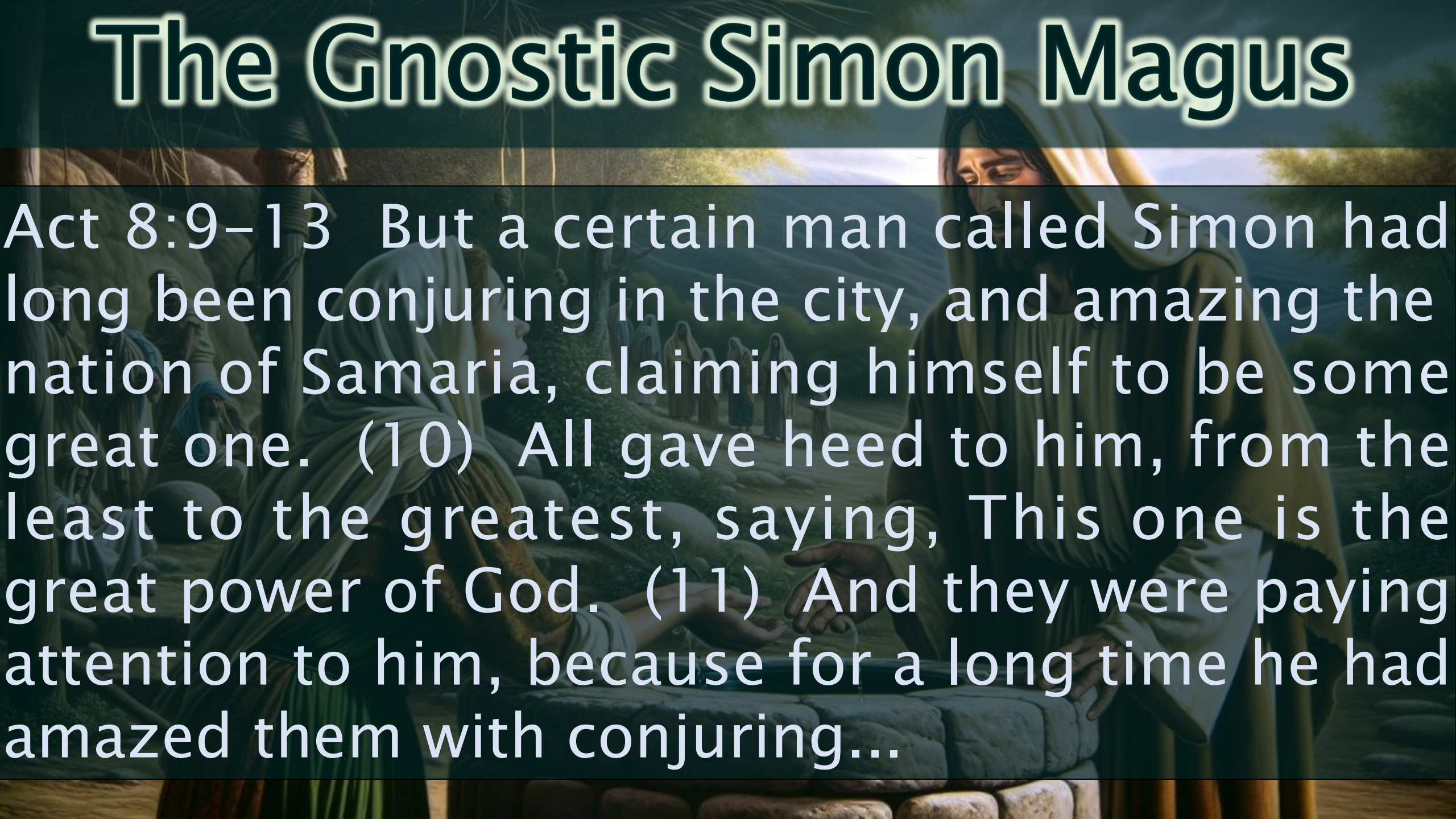


Phillip Performs Miracles



Act 8:4–8 ... (6) And the people with one accord gave heed to those things which Philip spoke, hearing and seeing the many miracles which he did. (7) For out of those having unclean spirits, many came out, crying with loud voice. And many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. (8) And there was great joy in that city.

The Gnostic Simon Magus

A dramatic scene with a man in a yellow robe and a woman in a blue robe in the foreground, and a crowd of people in the background. The man has long dark hair and a beard, and is looking down. The woman is looking towards him. The background shows a crowd of people in a hazy, outdoor setting.

Act 8:9–13 But a certain man called Simon had long been conjuring in the city, and amazing the nation of Samaria, claiming himself to be some great one. (10) All gave heed to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, This one is the great power of God. (11) And they were paying attention to him, because for a long time he had amazed them with conjuring...

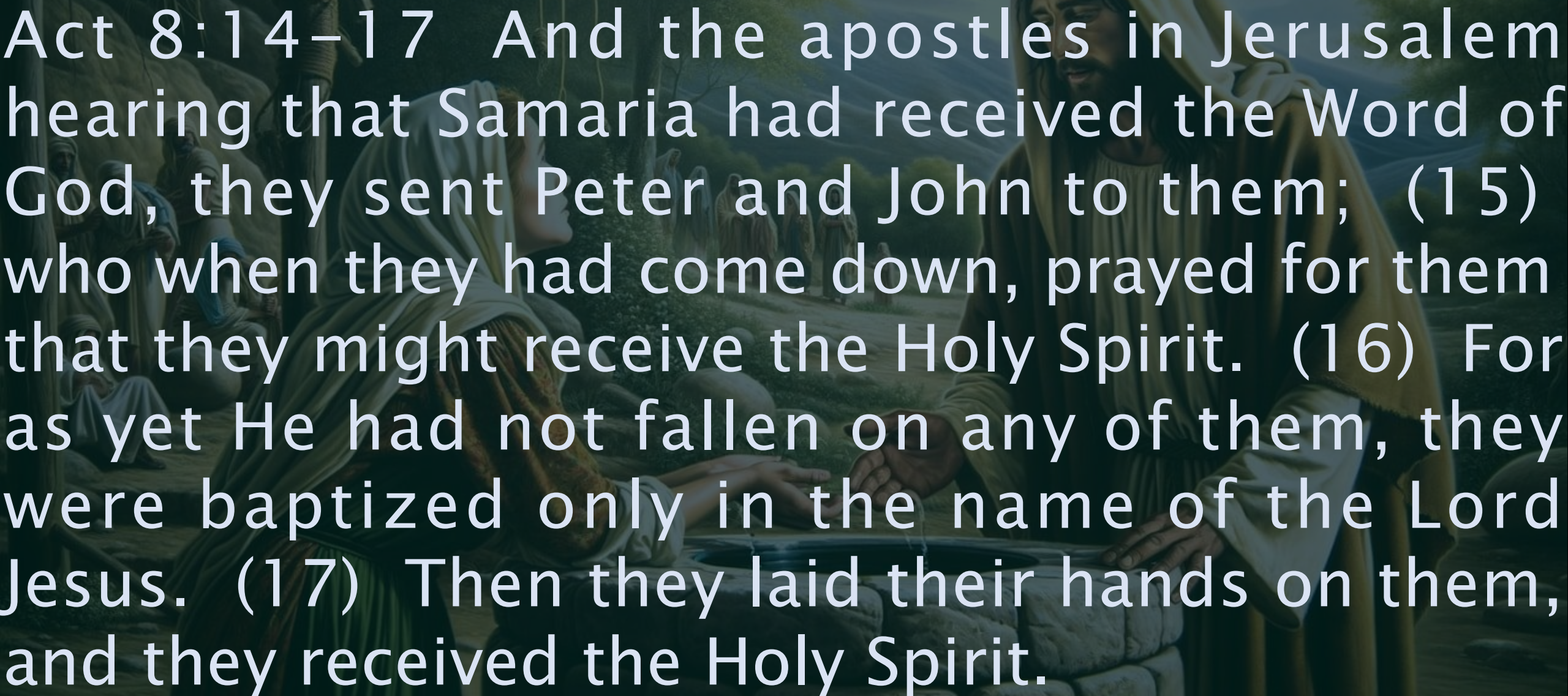
Simon Magus “Believes.”



Act 8:9–13 ... (12) But when they believed Philip preaching the gospel, the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. (13) Then Simon himself believed also, and being baptized, he continued with Philip. **And seeing miracles and mighty works happening, he was amazed.**

Apostles Impart Holy Spirit

Act 8:14–17 And the apostles in Jerusalem hearing that Samaria had received the Word of God, they sent Peter and John to them; (15) who when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. (16) For as yet He had not fallen on any of them, they were baptized only in the name of the Lord Jesus. (17) Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.



The First Infiltration Attempt



Act 8:18–19 And when Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given through laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, (19) saying, Give me this power also, that on whomever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Spirit.

Simon Rebuked

Act 8:20–23 But Peter said to him, May your silver perish with you, because you have thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. (21)

You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. (22)

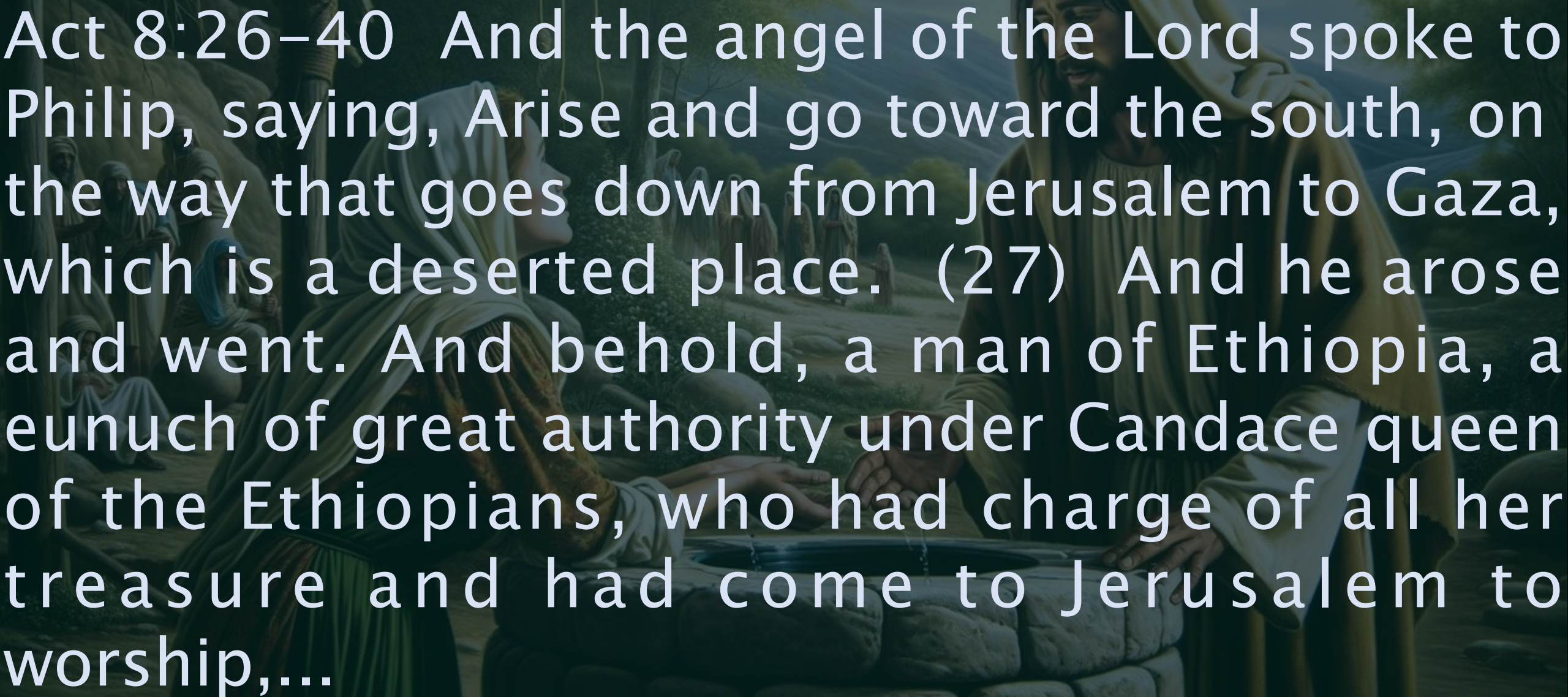
Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. (23) For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.

Simon's Gnosticism Showed

Act 8:24–25 And answering Simon said, **You pray to the Lord for me that none of these things which you have spoken may come on me.** (25) Then, indeed, having earnestly testified and having spoken the Word of the Lord also having preached the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans, they returned to Jerusalem.

Phillip and The Ethiopian Eunuch

Act 8:26–40 And the angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, Arise and go toward the south, on the way that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza, which is a deserted place. (27) And he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasure and had come to Jerusalem to worship,...



Phillip and The Ethiopian Eunuch

2 Chronicles 9:1–12 Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, she came to Jerusalem to test Solomon with hard questions, having a very great retinue, camels that bore spices, gold in abundance, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart...

The Origins of Ethiopian Judaism

2 Chronicles 9:1–12 ...3 And when the queen of Sheba had seen the wisdom of Solomon, the house that he had built, 4 the food on his table, the seating of his servants, the service of his waiters and their apparel, his cupbearers and their apparel, and his entryway by which he went up to the house of the LORD, **there was no more spirit in her...**

The Origins of Ethiopian Judaism

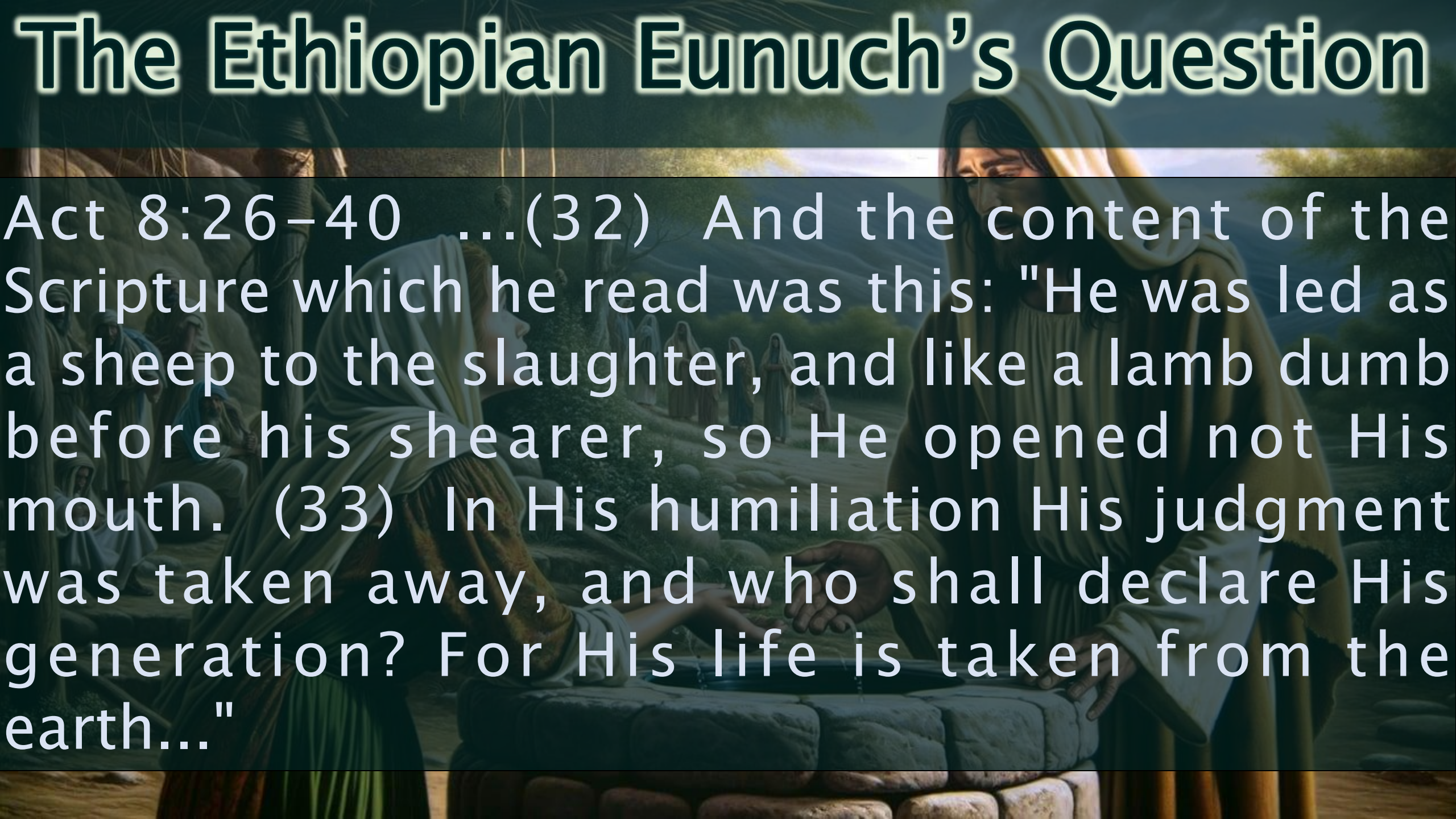


2 Chronicles 9:1-12 ...12 Now King Solomon gave to the queen of Sheba all she desired, whatever she asked, much more than she had brought to the king. So she turned and went to her own country, she and her servants.

The Ethiopian Eunuch's Question

Act 8:26-40 ... (28) was returning. And sitting in his chariot he read Isaiah the prophet. (29) Then the Spirit said to Philip, Go near and join yourself to this chariot. (30) And Philip ran there to him and heard him read the prophet Isaiah, and said, Do you indeed understand what you are reading? (31) And he said, How can I unless some man should guide me? And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him...

The Ethiopian Eunuch's Question



Act 8:26–40 ... (32) And the content of the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter, and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so He opened not His mouth. (33) In His humiliation His judgment was taken away, and who shall declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth..."

Phillip Explains This Messianic Prophecy

Act 8:26–40 ... (34) And the eunuch answered Philip and said, I beg you, of whom does the prophet speak this? Of himself or of some other man? (35) Then Philip opened his mouth and began at the same Scripture and preached the gospel of Jesus to him. (36) And as they passed along the way, they came on some water. And the eunuch said, See, here is water, what hinders me from being baptized?...

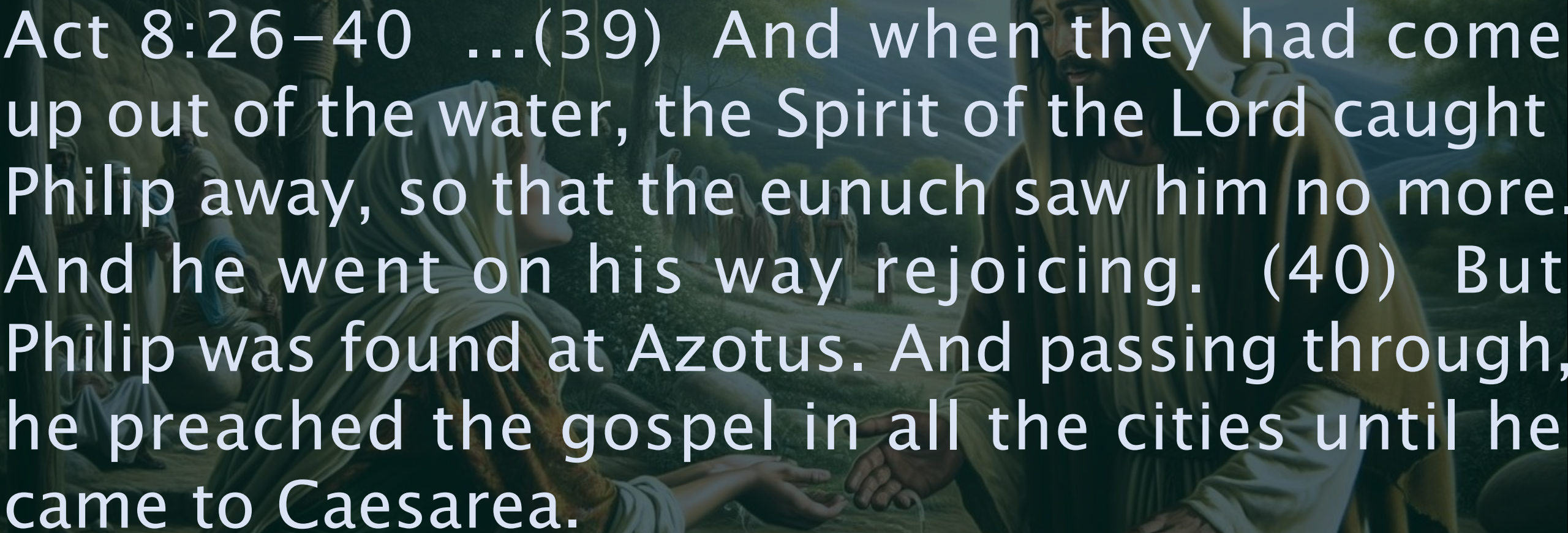
The Ethiopian Eunuch is Saved



Act 8:26–40 ...(37) Philip said, If you believe with all your heart, it is lawful. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (38) And he commanded the chariot to stand still. And they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch. And he baptized him...

Phillip Teleported

Act 8:26-40 ...(39) And when they had come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more. And he went on his way rejoicing. (40) But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached the gospel in all the cities until he came to Caesarea.



Phillip, Miracles, and Apostles

➤ Cessationists alleged miracles have ceased because only apostles can do miracles

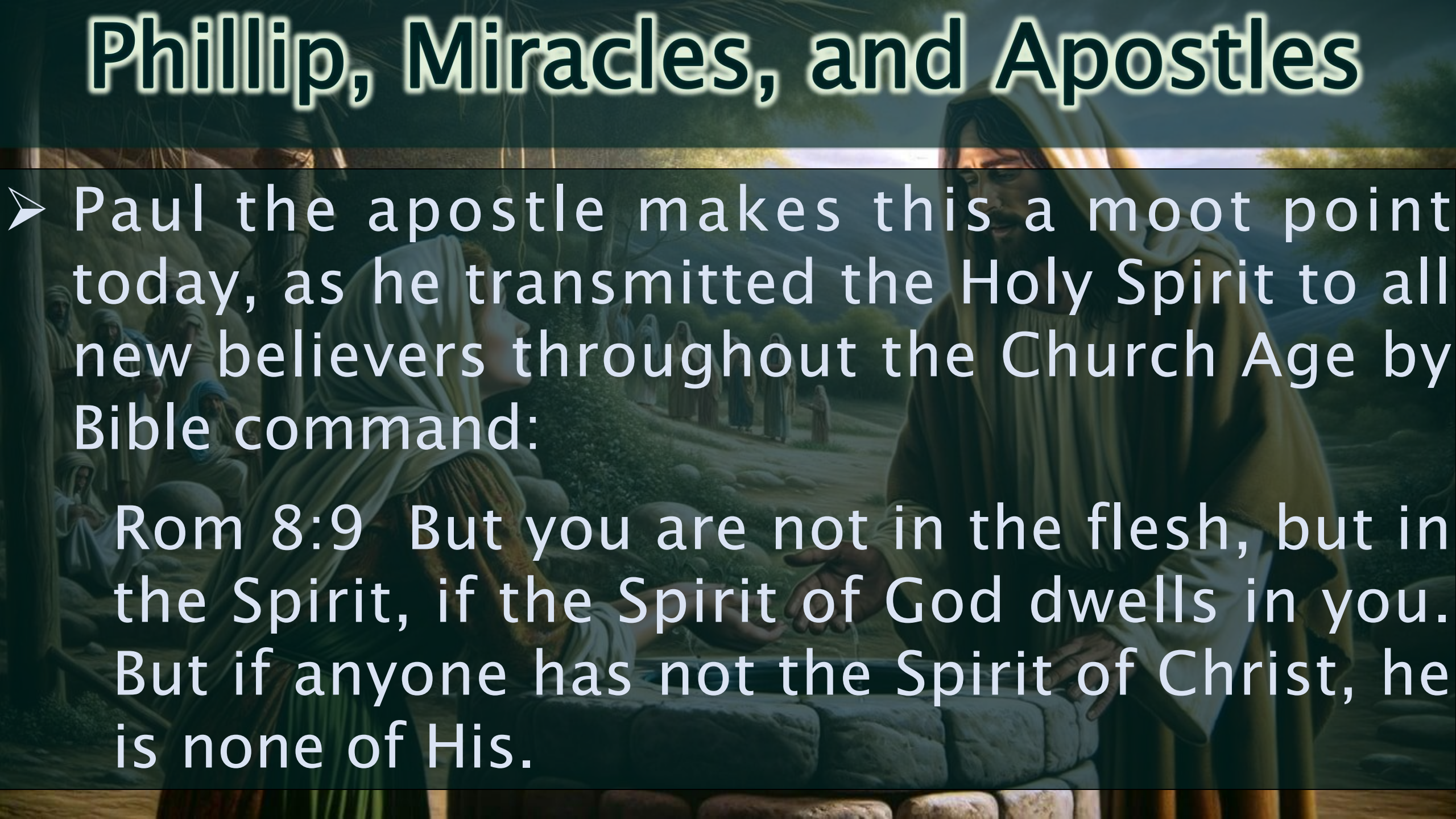
2 Co 12:12 Truly the signs of the apostle were worked out among you in all patience, in miracles and in wonders, and by works of power.

Phillip, Miracles, and Apostles



- Phillip walked in signs and miracles, as shown in Acts 8
- Yet, he was not an apostle – which was why apostles were brought in to transmit the Holy Spirit on new believers
- Miracles are for today

Phillip, Miracles, and Apostles



➤ Paul the apostle makes this a moot point today, as he transmitted the Holy Spirit to all new believers throughout the Church Age by Bible command:

Rom 8:9 But you are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.

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