

# ***Case Studies In Conversion***

**Lk. 24:47-53**

# *Jerusalem (Acts 2) – The Beginning*

- The beginning of the preaching of the gospel; the beginning of conversions; the beginning of the church. (Acts 11:15)
- The time to which O.T. prophecies had pointed. (Acts 3:18,24; Isa. 2:2-4; Dan. 2:44; Joel. 2:28-32)
- Questions:
  - What does this mean? (2:12, 16-17)
  - Who is the Lord? (2:21-36)
  - How does one call on his name? (2:21, 37-38)
- The first time **the question** is asked, Peter gave this answer: “...repent and be baptized...for the remission of sins”

# ***The Gospel Goes To Samaria (Acts 8)***

- Outline of the gospel's progress.
  - But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1:8; 11:19)
- Persecution takes the gospel to Samaria. (Acts 7:58-8:1-4)
- Gospel preaching...
  - The word. (8:4; II Tim. 4:1-4)
  - Preaching Christ. (8:5; 2:36)
  - Preaching the kingdom. (8:12; Matt. 4:17; 16:16-19; 28; Col. 1:13)
  - Preaching baptism. (8:13)
  - Possibility of apostasy. (8:18-24; Heb. 3:12)

# ***The Conversion of A Religious Man***

- The conversion of the Ethiopian eunuch. (Acts 8:26-40)
- The character of the Ethiopian:
  - Devoutly religious. (v. 27)
  - Diligent -- Reading the O. T. (v. 28)
  - Earnestly seeking God's way. (v. 30-31; Matt. 5:6)
- Preaching Christ includes preaching the necessity of baptism. (vv. 35-36; cf. Mk. 16:15-16; Matt. 28:18-19; Jn. 3:3-5)
- The joy of salvation. (v. 39)

# *The Conversion of A Sincere Man*

- Saul, the persecutor. (Acts 7:58; 8:1-4)
- “Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?” (9:4)
  - Who art thou, Lord? (v. 5; 2:36)
  - What wilt thou have me to do? (v. 6; 2:37)
    - “Go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.” (v. 6)
    - He...was baptized. (v. 18; cf. 22:16)
- Saul’s sincerity was neither sufficient nor saving. (Acts 26:9; 23:1)
  - Jer. 10:23; Jer. 17:9; Prov. 14:12; 3:5
- Rom. 6:17-18 → “...ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”

# ***The Conversion of a Good Man***

- The Character of Cornelius, the centurion:
  - Devout, feared God, generous, prayerful, just, good reputation among the Jews. (Acts 10:2,22)
  - He was lost. (Acts 11:14)
- Cornelius had to hear and obey the gospel to be saved.
  - Would be told what he ought to do. (10:6)
  - To hear all things commanded of God. (10:33)
  - Commanded to be baptized in the name of the Lord. (10:48)
- All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. (Rom. 3:23)

# ***The Conversion of The Philippian Jailer***

- Second missionary journey of the Apostle Paul. The gospel goes to Europe. (Acts 16)
- Paul and Silas in prison; the earthquake. (16:23-25)
- The jailer's question: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (16:30)
  - The answer (16:31-34)
    - Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. (Jn. 8:24; Acts 2:36)
    - Not saved by faith alone. (Js. 2:14, 17, 20, 24, 26)
    - Faith completed by obedience. (16:33-34)