They Had Only Been Baptized in Water

Acts 8:16 (NASB)

For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

- This shows that what will happen is not a "second blessing" Spirit reception
- There is nothing deficient about Philip's preaching, their believing, or their baptism
- God is doing a sovereign work for a specific situation

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Samaritans Receive the Same Gift That the Apostles Had Received

Acts 8:17 (NASB)

Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.

- The promise of Joel 2:28 is again fulfilled as it was at Pentecost (Acts 2:17)
- This event would insure that the apostles would accept the Samaritan Christians as part of the church
- Acts 1:8 continues to be fulfilled

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Gospel of Grace FELLOWSHIP

Simon's Sin

Acts 8:18-25

by Bob DeWaay

July 31, 2016

Simon Wants to Buy God's Gift

Acts 8:18, 19 (NASB)

Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

- Something visible and supernatural happened
- What Simon saw he considered marketable
- He asked for "authority" to use the Spirit

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Peter Condemns Simon

Acts 8:20 (NASB)

But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!"

- Peter's words are strong and harsh
- "Perish" is "into destruction" (*apo_leia*)
- God's gift cannot be bought to use for magic
- See Deuteronomy 29:17-20

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Simon Has No "Lot"

Acts 8:21 (NASB)

You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God.

- "Portion" is "*kle_ros*" (see Acts 26:18)
- "This matter" is "this logos" implying the gospel
- "Right" is "*euthus*" which means "straight"
- He is not part of the people of God

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A Call to Repentance

Acts 8:22, 23 (NASB)

"Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity."

- "Repent" is imperative in the Greek
- He is told what to repent of (his evil)
- He told to "beg" for "release"
- "Gall of bitterness" see Deut. 29:18; Heb. 12:15

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Simon Wants the Apostles to Pray

Acts 8:24 (NASB)

But Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me yourselves, so that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

- Simon expressed no repentance
- He does not want the consequences
- Even Pharaoh at first asked Moses to pray (see Exodus 8:8; Exodus 9:27, 28)

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Apostolic Gospel Preaching in Samaria

Acts 8:25 (NASB)

So, when they had solemnly testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they started back to Jerusalem, and were preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

- In Luke 9:53 the Samaritans rejected Christ
- In Luke 9:54 apostles wanted them judged
- Now both the apostles and the Samaritans have changed!

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