

**May 14, 2023**  
**Acts 8:1-13**  
**“Sown To The Wind”**

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

Simon believes! He was baptized! Now rather than people following Simon, Simon was following Philip. Questions, (1) was this “believe” saving faith? (James 2:19) (2) Faith based on signs is not trustworthy, see John 2:23-25. (3) Luke never stated that Simon received the Holy Spirit. (4) Simon continued with self-centered interest. (5) The verb repent used in verse 22 is normally addressed to lost people. (6) The word “perish” implies lostness as in John 3:16. (7) The words of verse 23 better describe the condition of a lost man than of one who is saved. (8) Even with all of this information pointing to Simon being lost, we cannot be dogmatic about it, see II Timothy 2:19. Gleaned from *Stanley D. Toussaint* Baptism has no power to take away sin.

Miracles can assist faith, but can never be a substitute for faith. Simon, some thought, was divinely empowered, they said of him, “This man is called the Great Power of God.” (Verse 10) He, by demonic power, could do magic. Simon claimed to be somebody great see v 9. Philip’s power was real, life-changing. It was said that Simon believed, but not in the kingdom of God or in Jesus for example. But clearly, he was interested in the signs and wonders of Philip.

Baptism has no power to take away sin.

Acts 21:8 gives Philip the title of evangelist, he is the only man given this title in all of Scripture.

Some people who think they are saved will end up in a devil’s hell, see Matthew 7:23. Peter wrote, make His calling you and electing you sure. Know Who’s you are. Saving faith, false faith, good soil, bad soil, branches who abide, those cut off and burned. Meditate on Matthew 13:24-43.

**Application:**

As they went, they spread the gospel seeds to the wind. God was turning this terrible day into something great, the word was going out. Saul thought he was crushing the Christian movement, but in reality, he was causing it to spread and grow! They were not preachers, they were ordinary people and as they told the people why they came, the gospel was shared. We are to do the same. As you go about your day, sow the seeds of the gospel along the way!