

Bereans Bible Institute
Module VII – The Apostolic Mission
Lesson 10 – The Apostolic Gift

I. Acts 8:5-26

- A. Vs. 5 Philip, a deacon, takes the next step in obeying the great commission.
- B. Vs. 6-7 Philip, like Steven, performs signs (Mark 16:15-20; John 14:12)
- C. What is the Extent of the Miraculous Gifts generationally?
- D. Vss. 9-11 The Pseudo-Miracles of Simon Magus (Simon the Magnificent)
 - 1. Simon's signs were "sorcery" (mag-U'-o: magic)
 - 2. Simon promoted himself (a SUBTLE sign of all false prophets)
 - 3. Feigned to have the power of God (YHVH to the Samaritans)
- E. Vs. 12 Philip's genuine miracles eclipsed Simon's 'sorceries'
 - 1. Philip preached and did miracles in the name of Jesus (not His own name)
 - a. Philip was not self-promoting, but was promoting Jesus.
- F. Simon 'believed' for ulterior motives (not a genuine conversion)
 - 1. Sometimes we baptize people who did not genuinely repent (it will show up)
- G. Vss. 14-17 Peter and John were sent to them to bestow spiritual gifts on the Samaritans
- H. They 'received' the holy Breath
 - 1. Two types of 'receiving' the holy Breath of God
 - a. "fallen upon them" (vs. 16) is external, signs (cf. Acts 10:44-46, 11:15)
 - 1. "filled from" (genitive - from, not dative - with) always indicates a temporary impartation of power from the Breath for a specific limited task (Luke 1:15, Luke 1:41; Luke 1:67; Acts 2:4; Acts 4:8; Acts 4:31)
 - b. "drink in" (1 Cor. 12:13) at baptism – permanent
- I. *"When Simon saw (aorist part.) that through the laying on of the Apostles' hands the holy Breath IS BEING GIVEN (present ind.), he offered (aorist ind.) them money."*
 - 1. The switch from aorist to present indicative indicates more than historical fact, but a continuous situation from Luke's perspective.
 - 2. If Luke meant only that the holy Breath falling upon these people was given this way he would have used the aorist, not present indicative.
 - 3. The holy Breath being 'given' was "falling upon" – a manifestation of supernatural gifts.
 - 4. Conclusion: The supernatural gifts were distributed through the Apostles' ONLY, since Philip could not do it, only two of Jesus' 11 Apostles.
 - a. Rom. 1:9-11 Paul wished to visit Rome to impart spiritual gifts
 - b. 2 Tim. 1:6 Timothy's gift through Paul's hands