

**The *Good News*
*Applied***

The Spread of the Gospel through the Book of Acts

Eastside Church of Christ

Bowling Green, KY

The Good News!

December 2, 2018

The Good News Preached

“So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” - Acts 2:41-42

- **Message:** “his word” (Acts 2:14-36)
 - *“God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”* (36)
 - The Good News
- **Response:** those who received the good news were baptized
 - Receive – to believe, to accept gladly, to embrace [STRONG’S]
- **Result:** they devoted themselves to the teaching

The Good News Applied

God's Plan To Spread The Gospel

"but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

- Acts 1:8

- The same message of good news that was preached in Jerusalem, would be spread throughout Judea, Samaria and the world
- The same **message** requires the same **response** and should produce the same **result**

“... to the remotest part of the earth.”

Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria

***The
Roman Empire
In the Days of Christ***



Jerusalem: Acts 2-7

- Following Pentecost (Acts 2) the church's activities were centered in Jerusalem
- Peter healed a lame man and preached a 2nd sermon (Acts 3)
- More growth, apostles arrested, threatened and released (Acts 4)
- Apostles again arrested (Acts 5)
 - Flogged, ordered to *“speak no more in the name of Jesus”*, released
 - *“every day...kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.”*
- The number of disciples multiplied greatly (Acts 6)
- Stephen's speech and execution (Acts 7)
- Driven from Jerusalem by the resulting persecution

Good News

“...and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.”
(Acts 8:1)

“Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word” (Acts 8:4)

The Good News Applied in Judea

Acts 8:26-31 (ESV)

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

The Good News Applied in Judea

Acts 8:32-34 (ESV)

32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.

33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”

The Good News Applied in Judea

Acts 8:35-39 (ESV)

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him **the good news about Jesus.**

36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

- **Message:** “the good news about Jesus”
- **Response:** “What prevents me from being baptized?”
- **Result:** He “went on his way rejoicing”

The Good News Applied in Samaria

Acts 8:5-8

5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. 6 And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. 8 So there was much joy in that city.

The Good News Applied in Samaria

Acts 8:12-14

12 But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John

- **Message:** “good news about... Jesus Christ...”
- **Response:** when they believed, they were baptized
- **Result:** they received the word of God and apostles

Good News

“...to the remotest part of the earth”

- The good news is not just for the Jews in and around Jerusalem
- Joel prophesied that the Gentiles were to be included

“All flesh... everyone...”

Acts 2:17-21 (ESV)

17 “And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on **all flesh**, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams...”

21 “And it shall come to pass that **everyone** who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

A Chosen Messenger to the Gentiles

Acts 9:3-15

3 Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. 4 And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” 5 And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”

15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.”

A Gentile Chosen for the Message

Acts 10:1-35

1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort, 2 a devout man who feared God with all his household, gave alms generously to the people, and prayed continually to God. 3 About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God come in and say to him, “Cornelius.” 4 And he stared at him in terror and said, “What is it, Lord?” And he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. 5 And now send men to Joppa and bring one Simon who is called Peter.

34 So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but **in every nation** anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

A Gentile Chosen for the Message

Acts 10:36-48

36 As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all)

42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

- **Message:** “good news of peace through Jesus Christ”
- **Response:** he commanded them to be baptized
- **Result:** they asked that he stay and teach them

**Apostle Paul's
First Missionary Journey
44 - 46 A.D.**



The Good News Applied in Galatia

Acts 13:2-14:23

- **Jews in Antioch - 13:32-33**

32 And we bring you **the good news** that what God promised to the fathers, 33 this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you.’

- **Gentiles in Lystra - 14:5-7**

5 When an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to mistreat them and to stone them, 6 they learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country, 7 and there they continued to **preach the gospel.**

The Good News Applied in Philippi

Acts 16:11-40

- Lydia - 16:13-15

¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴ One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

**Apostle Paul's
Third Missionary Journey
53 - 58 A.D.**



★ Location where Missionary Journey Begins
→ Apostle Paul's Third Missionary Journey

The Good News Applied in Corinth

Acts 18:1-18

- **The Corinthians** -18:4-6

4 And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks. 5 When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. 6 And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.”

The Good News Applied in Corinth

Acts 18:1-18

- **The Corinthians** -18:7-11

7 And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titus Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. 8 Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized.

11 And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

- **Message:** “that the Christ was Jesus”
- **Response:** many believed and were baptized
- **Result:** he stayed 18 months to teach them the word of God

The Good News Applied in Corinth

1 Cor. 15:1-3

1 Now I would remind you, brothers, of **the gospel** **preached to you** **which you received,** **in which you stand,** **2 and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.**

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that **Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures,** **4 that he was buried,** **that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.**

The Good News Applies Until the End

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The Good News Applied in Bowling Green on **12/2/2018**

- We can only preach the same **message** that was preached:
 - In Jerusalem, in Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth
 - *“God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”* Acts 2:36
- That same message still has the same power:
 - *“Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”* Acts 2:37
- Requires the same **response**:
 - *“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins...”* Acts 2:38
- Produces the same **result**:
 - *“they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”* Acts 2:42

The Good News: God's Power to Save

Romans 1:16

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

