

Preaching Christ

(Acts 8:1-40)

- Introduction:
1. In 1932, a brother in Christ wrote an article in which he said, that when Philip preached to the Eunuch, he “preached not a plan, but a man.” (*K.C. Moser, Preaching Christ*).
 2. Several years later, another brother wrote a book affirming that Jesus has faded from view within churches of Christ and replaced with the church and the plan of salvation (*Bill Love, The Core Gospel*).
 3. These writing helped to give rise to, or at least parrot the idea that we should be preaching “Jesus,” which is quite nebulous, and less about the teachings of Jesus.
 4. While I believe we need to preach “Jesus” (the man), I do not believe we can do so without preaching the “plan.”
 5. In this lesson, let us establish what it means to preach Jesus.

I. Philip Preached Jesus to the Samaritans

- A. (Acts 8:5-12).
- B. Philip preached Christ to them.
- C. The text defines what that nebulous expression means.
 1. “Things concerning the kingdom”
 - a. Uniqueness (Ephesians 4:4).
 - b. Organization (Philippians 1:1).
 - c. Worship (John 4:24).
 - d. Work (Evangelism - 1 Timothy 3:15; Benevolence - James 1:27; Edification - Romans 14:19).
 2. “The name of Christ”
 - a. (Matthew 28:18).
 - b. (Colossians 3:17).
 3. “Men and women were baptized”
 - a. The plan of salvation was included.
 - b. How else would he have known to be baptized?

II. Philip Preached Jesus to the Ethiopian Eunuch

- A. (Acts 8:35-37).
- B. Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopian eunuch.
- C. What was the content of his sermon?
 1. We don’t know explicitly, but having just defined it for us, should give us some hints.
 2. What we do know is that after Philip preached Jesus, the Ethiopian eunuch asked to be baptized.

- Conclusion:
1. From what we have seen, preaching Jesus is more than a “nebulous” term.
 2. When one affirms we need to preach the “Man and not the Plan,” the Bible rebuts and affirms you can’t preach the “Man without the Plan.”
 3. The Bible defines it as not only teaching about the person of Jesus, but also, the church, the plan of salvation, and judgment to come.