



PREACHING CHRIST

PART ONE

Written by Larry Murdock

There was persecution in Jerusalem! The whole city was in an uproar. The Jewish leaders wanted to stamp out Christianity! When that persecution broke out, the Bible says that the Christians in Jerusalem were scattered abroad. Well, instead of cutting out what they perceived as cancer, the Jewish persecutors only served to scatter the Christian message throughout the land. Christians went everywhere preaching the Word. "Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them" (Acts 8:5 NKJV). What did Philip preach when he "preached Christ" to them?

We meet Philip earlier in the Book of Acts. He was a partner with Stephen who was killed in the Jerusalem persecution. We call Stephen the first Christian martyr. Philip and Stephen, and five other men, were chosen by the church to oversee the daily distribution the church was collecting for and giving to poor, needy widows. Philip also had been given the power to work miracles. God gave the early church such gifts as these in order to confirm the message that they were preaching—the message of Christ.

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

**VISITORS,
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes
for all ages & fellowship
for lunch every Sunday!

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell JoeOwen

Andy Ratliff Tim Wilkes, II

John Wofford

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

Acts 8:5 says that Philip preached Christ to the Samaritans; what does it mean to “preach Christ”?

Acts 8:12 tells us more about Philip’s preaching. “But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized” (Acts 8:12). The result of Philip’s preaching is summed up in the words, “both men and women were baptized.” After Christ is preached “men and women” will want to be baptized. Notice also from this verse 12 that when Christ is preached something is said about the things concerning the kingdom of God. Philip also preached the “name of Jesus Christ.” You can’t preach Christ without preaching the name of Christ.

What does it mean to preach Christ? We conclude that preaching Christ must mean preaching the kingdom of God and preaching the name of Jesus Christ. Let’s study more closely these two expressions so we can learn what it means to preach Christ.

When Jesus came preaching in Galilee, He was preaching, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” In the New Testament, the kingdom of God and the kingdom of Heaven are the same kingdom. Jesus also called it “my kingdom” when He was standing before Pilate. When Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews,” Jesus replied, “It is as you say” (Matthew 27:11). Then Jesus added, “My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from here” (John 18:26 KJV). Three times in that one verse, Jesus called the kingdom “my kingdom.” We read more about this “kingdom” in Colossians 1, where the apostle Paul wrote to Christians he had never met. We begin reading in the middle of a long sentence. In the KJV, this sentence stretches from verse 9 all the way down to verse 17. In verse 12 we read, “Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be the partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son” (Colossians 1:12-13).

Christians can partake of the inheritance because they have been made fit. The “meet” means “fit.” The Heavenly Father has made us fit to share in the inheritance of

the saints. This inheritance is in the "light." There is no darkness where the Christian's inheritance is located.

Well, how did the Father make us "fit" to be partakers? The Father delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of His dear son. The power of darkness is death. Not the first death, but the second death. That's the one we should fear. The second death is the one that holds such dread. Do you remember the time when Jesus told His disciples what to expect when they preached Christ? He said I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. Yet, Jesus told his disciples not to be afraid of those who can kill the body. Rather, fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell (Matthew 10:28). That's the second death, the one that will separate us from the Heavenly Father forever. People who have believed and obeyed Jesus Christ have been delivered from the second death, the power of darkness. That right!

After being delivered from the power of darkness, the Heavenly Father translated these believers into "the kingdom of His dear Son." Ah, those church members at Colossae were in the kingdom of God's dear Son, Jesus Christ. Friends, the church of Christ is the kingdom of Christ. Jesus made this connection in Matthew 16 when He and His disciples came into the coast of Caesarea Philippi. Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man am?"

And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell [hades] shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven (Matthew 16:14-19).

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Amanda Lyons, recent health complications, more tests to come; **Wiley Tuggle**, severe pain behind one of his eyes; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**; **Seth & Jan Daniel**; **Sammy Williams**; **Inez Neyman**.

Far East Missions Fishers of Men NetCasters

Family & Friends

Michelle Gitter, her father passed away; **Jonathan Livsey family**, Clifton's younger cousin passed away; **Joy Angel**, Clifton's older sister, recent pericarditis along with continual health issues; **Carleigh Miller**, daughter to Kevin & Melanie Miller, born prematurely; **Martha Williams**, Amanda Lyon's grandmother, dementia.

Birthdays

6/3 Amanda Ferrell 6/18 Grace Williams
6/6 Bodie Meredith 6/21 Tim Meredith
6/13 Melaney Ferrell 6/28 Mischel Jackson

Anniversaries

6/3 Clarence & Faye Edwards
6/3 Carl & Ginna Honeycutt
6/4 Larry & Joyce Campbell
6/5 Andy & Molly Ratliff
6/7 Mitchell & Mary Alice Arnold
6/20 Carl & Mary Zluticky
6/26 Jeffrey & Amanda Ferrell
6/28 Jim & Mischel Jackson

Get Involved!

Beginning June 7, we will resume all services at building, except for our 1 pm worship service.

We will continue to try to livestream as much as possible for those who cannot attend.

Resuming Wed. Bible Study at Building
June 10, 7 PM

SLCC June Sessions Cancelled

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, June 7

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jerry Davis
Announcements	Billy Bland
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	John Wofford
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jason Bayless

Assist

Closing Prayer	Jim Jackson
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Afternoon

Song Leader
Opening Prayer
Sermon
Lord's Supper

**TEMPORARILY
CANCELLED**

Closing Prayer

Wednesday, June 10

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Billy Bland
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Tim Wilkes, II

TECH:	Davis Johnson
HALL:	