

Elder Bobby Willis



Acts 8:6 “**With One Accord Gave Heed**”

One way to eliminate the threat to one’s way of life is to divide or scatter those which oppose you. This tactic has been used numerous times down through history, especially relating to warfare. This was the case at Jerusalem in the days of the apostles, the disciples, and others who were spreading the word of the gospel of Christ prior to the calling and conversion of the Apostle Paul.

As the saints of God attempted to escape the Jewish persecution, which was termed as “**a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem,**” they still remained faithful to the cause of Christ and went forth preaching the gospel. The Apostles, however, remained in Jerusalem. These “**devout men**” remained to bury Stephen, who had been stoned to death, in an honorable way - Not in the way which the Jews normally buried one who had been stoned to death.

Saul, prior to his new birth, was a chief persecutor of the saints of God, even going house to house and casting believers into prison. Thus we find, “**Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word**” (Acts 8:4). This is where we see Philip going down to the city of Samaria, preaching Christ. Philip, in preaching the gospel though in the face of much persecution and adversity, shows our responsibility and what we learn in obeying the Lord. Christ Himself was our example as shown in Hebrews 5:8, “**Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered:...**”

Pay close attention to Acts 8:6, “**And the people with one accord GAVE HEED unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.**” These saints of God witnessed great healing and the riddance of many unclean spirits. The end result was “**there was great joy in that city**” (Acts 8:8). These same Samaritans had earlier “**gave heed**” to a “**certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria.**” No wonder “**there was great joy in that city**” when the good news of the gospel was heard and received by them.

The point of saints in Samaria who **“gave heed unto those things which Philip spake”** is further shown in Acts 8:26-39 concerning the Ethiopian eunuch. The Holy Spirit of God had dealt with this man and the Spirit sent Philip to him to preach this same gospel which had brought joy to the city of Samaria. After hearing the sweet words of Jesus, the eunuch asked **“See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized”** (Acts 8:36). This man not only desired to take heed to the things which Philip preached unto him, but also **“Gave Heed”** unto them.

May we all learn from these things and Take Heed. We need to: Take Heed what we hear, Take Heed and beware, Take Heed lest we be deceived, Take Heed unto yourselves, Take Heed and watch and pray, Take Heed what thou doest, Take Heed lest we fall, and Take Heed that ye be not consumed. And finally, as Philip did in the face of adversity, **“Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it”** (Colossians 4:17). You see, ministers need to take heed if they are going to fulfill their ministry and not be ashamed. To all of you, may God’s richest blessings be with you as you give heed to God’s word. ***“Think About IT.”***