

⁴ Those who had been scattered went around declaring the word of the Gospel.

⁵ Coming down into the city of Samaria, Philip began proclaiming the Anointed to them. ⁶ When they listened and saw the signs Philip was doing, the crowds began being communally attentive to what was being said by him. ⁷ Many impure breaths, crying out with a great voice, came out of those having them and many, who had been paralyzed and disabled, were cared for. ⁸ This caused great joy in the city.

⁹ Previously existing in the city was a man named Simon, who was doing magic. He was making the nation of Samaria beside themselves, saying that he himself was someone great. ¹⁰ Everyone, from least to greatest, was being attentive to him, saying,

“This one, called the Great One, is the very power of the Creator!”

¹¹ They were being attentive to him, because he had been making them beside themselves with his magic for an adequate time. ¹² But when they trusted the Gospel—the one declared by Philip about the Rule of the Creator and the name of Jesus, the Anointed—men and women began being baptized. ¹³ Simon himself trusted and, after being baptized, he began being steadfast to Philip and, seeing signs and great powers happening, was beside himself.

¹⁴ Hearing that Samaria had received the word of the Creator, the representatives in Jerusalem sent Peter and John of Zebedee to them. ¹⁵ Going down to there, they prayed concerning them—so they would receive the Divine Breath, ¹⁶ for it had not yet fallen upon any of them. Having only been baptized, they still had possessions in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ So Peter and John of Zebedee began putting their hands upon them and they began receiving the Divine Breath. ¹⁸ Seeing that through the putting on of the representatives’ hands they received the Breath, Simon brought to them riches, ¹⁹ saying,

“Give me this authority! So whoever I put my hands upon will receive the Divine Breath.”

²⁰ Peter said to him,

“You and your silver will be destroyed, because you supposed the gift of the Creator to be acquired through riches! ²¹ No part or portion of this word belongs to you, for your heart is not straight in the view of the Creator. ²² Therefore, transform from this harmfulness of yours and beg to the Lord, so the decisions of your heart will be set free. ²³ For I see that you are poisonous and in the bondage of injustice!”

²⁴ Answering, Simon said,

“Beg on my behalf to the Lord, so nothing may come upon me which you spoke!”

²⁵ Then, after being testimonies and speaking the word of the Lord, Peter and John of Zebedee turned back to Jerusalem, declaring the Gospel to many villages of Samaria.

²⁶ A messenger of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying,

“Stand up! At midday go upon the way which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”

This is a wilderness way ²⁷ and, standing up, he went. An Ethiopian, who had come to bow down in Jerusalem (a castrated, powerful man who was over all the treasury of Candace, the ruler of Ethiopia), ²⁸ was heading back, sitting upon his chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ The Breath said to Philip,

“Go over and join this chariot.”

³⁰ Running over, Philip listened to his reading of Isaiah the prophet and said,

“Do you know what you are reading?”

³¹ He said,

“How am I able to unless someone guides the Way for me?”

So he exhorted Philip to come up to sit with him. ³² The section of writing he was reading was this,

“As a sheep brought to the butcher and as a lamb being shaved are voiceless, as such he did not open his mouth. ³³ Because of low status, his judgment was taken away. What will describe his generation that took his life from the earth?”

³⁴ Answering, the castrated man said to Philip,

“I beg you, who is the prophet saying this about? About himself or about another person?”

³⁵ Opening his mouth and beginning from this writing, Philip declared the Gospel of Jesus to him. ³⁶ As they were going along the way, they came upon some water and the castrated man enlightened,

“Look! Water! What is preventing me from being baptized?”

³⁸ He instructed the chariot to stand still and both Philip and the castrated man went down into the water and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Breath of the Lord pulled Philip away. The castrated man saw him no more and began going on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip then found himself in Azotus and, going through there, he declared the Gospel to all the cities till he came into Caesarea.