WHEREVER HE LEADS

Acts 8:26-39 September 12, 2021

INTRODUCTION: Song,

Daystar

"Lily of the Valley, let your sweet aroma fill my life Rose of Sharon show me how to grow in beauty in God's sight Fairest of ten thousand make me a reflection of your light Daystar shine down on me let your love shine through me in the night

Lead me Lord, I'll follow. Anywhere you open up the door Let your word speak to me, show me what I've never seen before

Lord I want to be your witness, you can take what's wrong and make it right

Daystar shine down on me, let your love shine through me in the night

Lord I've seen a world that's dying wounded by the master of deceit

Groping in the darkness, haunted by the years of past defeat But when I see you standing near me shining with compassion in your eyes

I pray Jesus shine down on me let your love shine through me in the night

Lead me Lord, I'll follow anywhere you open up the door Let your word speak to me, show me what I've never seen before

Lord I want to be your witness, you can take what's wrong and make it right

Daystar shine down on me, let your love shine through me in the night"

According to Acts 6:5, Philip was a deacon (servant), "full of faith and the Holy Spirit." "Wherever He Leads" could have been his theme song. Philip served our Lord and His church as a submissive servant of God. He was committed to sharing the gospel with the multitudes in major cities or with one man in the desert. His commitment portrays him as a "point man" in submissiveness to the first century church. Philip seemed convinced that God used three things, in particular, to bring men to Jesus:

1. The Word of God.

Romans 10:17, "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

2. The Spirit of God.

John 16:8, "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment."

3. The Child of God.

2 Corinthians 5:20, "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."

Revelation 22:17, "And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And

let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

Note the person God can use:

I. THE MINISTRY OF A SUBMISSIVE SERVANT. 26

A. PHILIP HEARD THE SPIRIT'S CALL. 26

"Arise and go" God is still calling and sending

B. PHILIP HEEDED THE SPIRIT'S CALL. 27

<u>"He arose and went"</u> – Simple compliance to a sovereign call

Acts 8:3-5 teaches that Philip was in the midst of a mighty moving of the Spirit of God, yet the Lord called him to visit one man in need of a Savior in the desert

Many would like to leave the one and move to the multitude, but the Lord called Philip from the multitude to one.

C. PHILIP HASTENED TO THE SINNER'S CRY. 27b – 30a

There is an urgency needed in sharing the gospel with the nations.

D. PHILIP HELPED THE SINNER COMPREHEND. 30-34

The eunuch knew the importance of seeking God through the Scripture. He read **Isaiah 53:7,8**

This man was a government official from North Africa. He held a position of authority in the queen's court; that of a treasurer, much like the Minister of Finance or Secretary of the Treasury. As a physical eunuch, he would have been denied access to the temple and the opportunity to become a full proselyte to Judaism.

Evidently this man hoped to fill the void in his life (the whole or vacuum in his heart) while in Jerusalem. It did not happen!

v.34 "of whom does the prophet say this, of himself, or some other man?"

His confusion was understandable. Even the Jewish religious experts were divided on the meaning of the passage. Some believed the slaughtered sheep represented Israel, others thought Isaiah was referring to himself, and others thought the Messiah was Isaiah's subject.

<u>OUESTION:</u> v.30 "Do you understand what you are reading?"

ANSWER: v.31 "How can I, unless someone guides me?"

He needed someone to lead him to the Lord.

II. THE MESSAGE OF THE SUBMISSIVE SERVANT.

Acts 8:35, "Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him."

Philip was impressed with Jesus. If you had asked the eunuch what Philip told him after their visit, I believe it would have gone something like this:

"I heard an old, old story,
how a Savior came from glory.
How He gave His life on Calvary
to save a wretch like me:
I heard about His groaning,
of His precious blood's atoning,
then I repented of my sins and won the victory."

THREE TRUTHS ABOUT JESUS:

A. JESUS SUFFERED SUBMISSIVELY. 32

"like a lamb" – humble, honor, holy

B. JESUS SUFFERED SILENTLY. 32

"He opened not His mouth"

One writer said that had He chosen to open His mouth, He could have disqualified Himself to open the grave.

C. JESUS SACRIFICED SUPREMELY. 33

"His life is taken from the earth" He gave His all.

Philip could have sung these three truths:

- 1. "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus"
- 2. "He Could Have Called 10,000 Angels"
- 3. "Jesus Paid It All"

III. THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SOVEREIGN SPIRIT. 36

A. TO PHILIP.

- 1. Told Him where to go. 26
- 2. Told Him what to do. 29
- 3. Told Him when to leave. 39

B. TO EUNUCH.

- 1. A desire to worship. 27
- 2. A desire for the Word. 30
- 3. A desire for water baptism. 36
- 4. A desire to know the way. 37