

WITNESSES TO THE RESURRECTION

Life and Times of Early Disciples



Philip, the Evangelist

- Hellenistic Jew
- Philip from Greek name Philippos(lover of horses)
- Co-worker with Stephen

Appointment of the Seven

Act 6:1-7

1In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

2So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.

3Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them **4**and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

5This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.

6They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. **7**So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

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Act 6:2-4

2So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to ***wait on tables***.

3Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4and will give our attention to prayer and the ***ministry*** of the word."

v2 Διακονέω(diakoneō)—I wait at table (particularly of a slave who waits on guests); I serve (generally)

v4 διακονία(diakonia)—waiting at table; in a wider sense: service, ministrations

διάκονος(diakonos)—a waiter, servant; then of any one who performs any service, an administrator

Phoebe, Paul & Apollos, Epaphras, Tychicus, Timothy

Ministry in Samaria

Act 8:1 And Saul approved of their killing him. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and ***all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.***

Act 8:3 But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

Act 8:4 ***Those*** who had been scattered ***preached the word wherever they went.***

Ministry in Samaria

Act 8:5-13

5Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. **6**When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. **7**For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. **8**So there was great joy in that city.

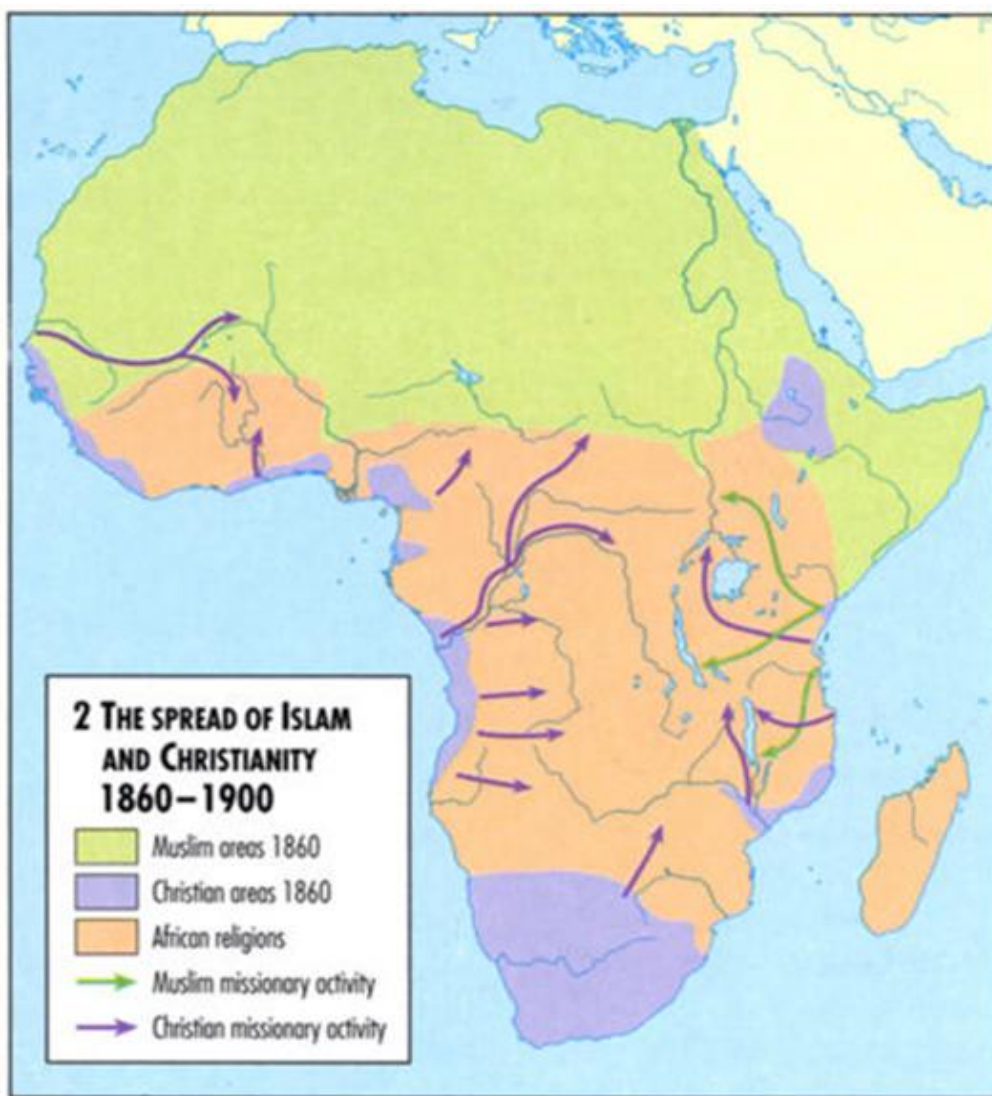
9Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, **10** and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, "This man is rightly called the Great Power of God." **11** They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his sorcery.

12But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. **13**Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.

Ethiopian Eunuch

Act 8:26-39

26Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road--the desert road--that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." **27**So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians"). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, **28**and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. **29**The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. **31**"How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. **32**This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. **33**In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." **34**The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" **35**Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. **36**As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" **38**And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. **39**When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.



▲ During the 19th century the two main religions – Christianity and Islam – competed for domination of the African interior. The Muslim religion spread south from North Africa (although the Coptic Christians held out in Ethiopia) and inland

from Arab trading bases in East Africa. The Christian churches sent out missionaries from European colonies in the south, east and west of the continent, with the Catholics and Protestants vying for converts.

Philip, the Evangelist

Act 8:40

40Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.



Philip, the Evangelist

Acts 21:7-14

7We continued our voyage from Tyre and landed at Ptolemais, where we greeted the brothers and sisters and stayed with them for a day. **8**Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the Seven. **9**He had four unmarried daughters who prophesied. **10**After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. **11**Coming over to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, "The Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.'" **12**When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem. **13**Then Paul answered, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." **14**When he would not be dissuaded, we gave up and said, "The Lord's will be done."

Philip, the Evangelist

Acts 21:8

8 Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the Seven.

Where else is the word Evangelist used in the scriptures?

εὐαγγελίζω-(euaggelizó)- **Definition:** I bring good news, preach good tidings

εὐαγγέλιον, ου, τό(euaggelion)- **Definition:** the good news of the coming of the Messiah, the gospel

εὐαγγελιστής, οῦ, ὁ(euaggelistés)- **Definition:** an evangelist, a missionary, bearer of good tidings.

- Philip identified as an evangelist

- Timothy encouraged to do the work of an evangelist

- evangelist identified as one of the roles(along with apostles, prophets, shepherds, and teachers in Eph 4:11-12) that God has given to some to fill

Philip, the Evangelist



Resources for Bible Study

www.e-sword.net(most commentaries, bible versions, maps are provided free, but I've occasionally seen sales on the bundle with NIV/HCSB for e-sword

biblegateway.com

biblecc.com => links to tools at biblehub.com, including Thayer's Greek concordance and Strong's Exhaustive concordance

<https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?strongs=G2099>

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