

Acts Bible Study

Class 6 Teacher Notes

Acts Chapter and verse:

7.1ff defence of the Faith



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7.37 Prophetic words from Moses fortelling Christ

7.48 The temple is not the sole dwelling place of God

7.53 The Jewish officers, in rejecting the Messiah, keep neither the Old nor the New Testaments.

7.55-56 A fulfillment of John 1.51 (almost exactly the same wording, Jesus says: "hereafter you shall see heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man") and Acts 1.11

7.60 Following the example of Christ, who cried out "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do," Stephen cries, "Lord, do not charge them with this sin."

8.1ff persecution

8.6 They heard Philip's preaching and saw his miraculous works, that they were in accord with his teaching.

8.16-17 Baptism and Chrismation (the laying on of hands) are distinguished.

8.18 The sin of "Simony," the attempted purchases of the grace of God by Simon Magus.

8.26ff St. Philip goes to Gaza, and encounters the Ethiopian eunuch

8.28 The eunuch reads the Scripture, but the Spirit tells Philip to go to the chariot (.29) and then asks the eunuch if he understands what he is reading (.30) The eunuch answers and says "**How can I** unless someone guides me" i.e. **Holy Tradition**. This Apostolic Tradition is then mentioned in .35, where Philip "opened his mouth", and beginning at the same Scripture in the Old Testament, began to preach the Gospel of Christ (before the New Testament was written). i.e. the Holy Spirit by the Tradition of the Church established Scripture. The Church and her Tradition is that which establishes, and Scripture the prime thing established as a prime expression of the Apostolic teaching which existed first in unwritten form.

8.38 The eunuch asks a question that is appropriate to many today: "What keeps me from being baptized?" The eunuch sees the water and immediately thinks of baptism, his heart being inclined by the Spirit.