

A.M. OUTLINE
2/11/2024

A REJOICING ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH

(Acts 8:26 – 40)

INTRODUCTION

Not many noblemen obeyed the gospel in Bible stories.

- (Acts 24:24) "Felix ... when I have a convenient season, I'll call you."
(Acts 26:28) "King Agrippa ... Almost you persuade me to be a Christian."
(1 Corinthians 1:26) "For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called."

This sermon looks at the Ethiopian's heart because it sets him apart from so many others.

1. AN HONEST HEART

An appointment to his treasury position suggests integrity, honesty.

- (v34) He asked questions about the text he was reading.
(v35) Philip "preached unto him Jesus," and he took it to heart, received it.
(v36) He asks, "What hinders me from being baptized?"

(James 1:22) "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves"

2. A HUNGRY HEART

Remember, he traveled from Ethiopia to Jerusalem to worship, so distance and conditions did not stop him from the journey. (Matthew 5:6) "Blessed are those that hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

He traveled all that way to stand outside the temple: eunuchs can't enter (Deut. 23:1).
Returning home, he is reading a scroll from the prophet Isaiah.
He asked for help to understanding the text.

Put your heart into it: (Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; 2 Timothy 2:15)

3. A HUMBLE HEART

A person in his position could easily have been filled with pride; but, he is not.

- (v31) he asks for guidance and for Philip to sit with him. (v34) he admits his lack of knowledge, and after the study, he confesses (v37) "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."
(v38) "Philip and eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him."

Upon our study of God's word, we need to act upon it.

4. A HAPPY ("rejoicing") HEART (v39)

- (Psalm 32:1-2) "Blessed ("happy") is he whose transgression is forgiven ... "
(3rd John v4) "I have no greater joy than to her that my children walk in truth"
(Philippians 4:4) "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice"