

Book of Acts

Acts 8 - Priceless

God's Blessing Are Bestowed, Not Bought

Acts 8:13-25

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Acts 8:13 (NLT)

¹³ Then Simon himself believed and was baptized. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the signs and great miracles Philip performed.

Acts 8:14-17 (NLT)

¹⁴ When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God's message, they sent Peter and John there. ¹⁵ As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Please access the special notes I have provided online called: Receiving the Gift of the Holy Spirit. These notes are an extensive Bible study on the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

<http://trinitytoday.com/messages/>

Acts 8:18-20 (NLT)

¹⁸ When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. ¹⁹ "Let me have this power, too," he exclaimed, "so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!" ²⁰ But Peter replied, "May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God's gift can be bought!

Acts 8:20 (CEV)

²⁰ Peter said to him, "You and your money will both end up in hell if you think you can buy God's gift!

Acts 8:20 (GNT)

²⁰ But Peter answered him, "May you and your money go to hell, for thinking that you can buy God's gift with money!

"Simony" is "the sin of buying or selling ecclesiastic preferment." Based on the heretical notion that God's blessings can be purchased.

Acts 8:21-24 (NLT)

²¹ You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God. ²² Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, ²³ for I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and are held captive by sin." ²⁴ "Pray to the Lord for me," Simon exclaimed, "that these terrible things you've said won't happen to me!"

The cult of niceness is killing us!

NICENESS IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT...

FEELINGS OVER FACTS

TOLERANCE OVER TRUTH

COMFORT OVER CHARACTER

EASE OVER EXCELLENCE

EMPATHY OVER EFFECTIVENESS

Acts 8:24 (NLT)

²⁴ *“Pray to the Lord for me,” Simon exclaimed, “that these terrible things you’ve said won’t happen to me!”*

*Sounds holy, “pray for me.” Don’t get me wrong; we are to pray for people, but some spiritual victories are only achieved if **YOU PRAY!***

Acts 8:25 (NLT)

²⁵ *After testifying and preaching the word of the Lord in Samaria, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem. And they stopped in many Samaritan villages along the way to preach the Good News.*