



# Divinely Guided

**“And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert” (Acts 8:26).**

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**“Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot” (Acts 8:29).**

“And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans. 26 And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. 27 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, 28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. 30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest? 31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. 32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: 33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. 34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. 36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? 37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. 39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip was found at Azotus: and passing through he preached in all the cities, till he came to Caesarea” (Acts 8:25-40).

God is still in the business of guiding people, and He always guides aright. The outcomes always add value and makes a difference. We need such guidance today to make right decisions that transforms lives

and circumstances for good. In this study we find Him guiding Philip by an angel and by the Holy Spirit:

- 1) Running away from the persecution at Jerusalem, Philip landed in Samaria. His getting to Samaria was not just by accident, but a divine orchestration, to where God needed him at that moment, as “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way” (Psalm 37:23).
- 2) To remain guided by the Lord, we must be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and be willing to obey wholeheartedly. “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding” (Proverbs 3:5). In the midst of a powerful revival at Samaria, the angel of the Lord told him “the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert” (vs 26), and he obeyed.
- 3) On getting to the Ethiopian eunuch, “the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot” (vs 29). Philip’s response to a divine instruction in relation to a total stranger is remarkable - “And Philip ran thither to him...” (vs 30).
- 4) In each of the divine guidance stages, he was not told the outcomes to expect. He had to follow one step at a time. Like Abraham, he obeyed, not knowing whither he was going. His willing and prompt obedience led to the salvation and baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch (vs 38).
- 5) Next, the Holy Spirit transported him to other areas of needs to preach the gospel (vs 39,40)

God has a job to do in this world and He needs people who are willing to obey to carry it out “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him” (2 Chronicles 16:9). “If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land” (Isaiah 1:19).