

## *the remotest part of the earth*

#8, scattered throughout the regions – Acts 8:1-40

The bottom line is, Stephen was murdered by an enraged mob, simply for telling the truth.

This lesson opens with the following sentence. Acts 8:1 Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death.

[1.] Saul was also mentioned in the last lesson. From Acts 7:58 and Acts 8:1, write down the information these two verses give us about Saul.

Paul (Saul) gave us his personal testimony in Galatians 1:13-14. “For you have heard of my former manner of life in Judaism, how I used to persecute the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it; 14 and I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries among my countrymen, being more extremely zealous for my ancestral traditions.”

[2.] Gal 1:13, former manner of life in Judaism, Was this before Paul was born again (born according to the Spirit) or after?

[3.] Gal 1:14, ancestral traditions, What is Paul talking about here?

Hint: fathers of my traditions  
3967 3450 3862

3967: paternal, i.e. ancestral.  
traditionary law.

3862: transmission, i.e.(concretelt) a precept, specifically, the Jewish

New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance

1 And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. 2 Some devout men buried Stephen, and made loud lamentation over him. 3 But Saul began ravaging the church, entering house after house, and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison.

[4.] Acts 8:2-3, church in Jerusalem, Since these are all Jews, from the list below determine who was persecuting who.

a) Democrats persecuting Republicans.

b) Romans persecution pagans

c) Those born according to the flesh persecuting those born according to the Spirit (Gal 4:29).

d) Upper class Jews persecuting lower class.

e) Syrians persecuting Americans

## *the remotest part of the earth*

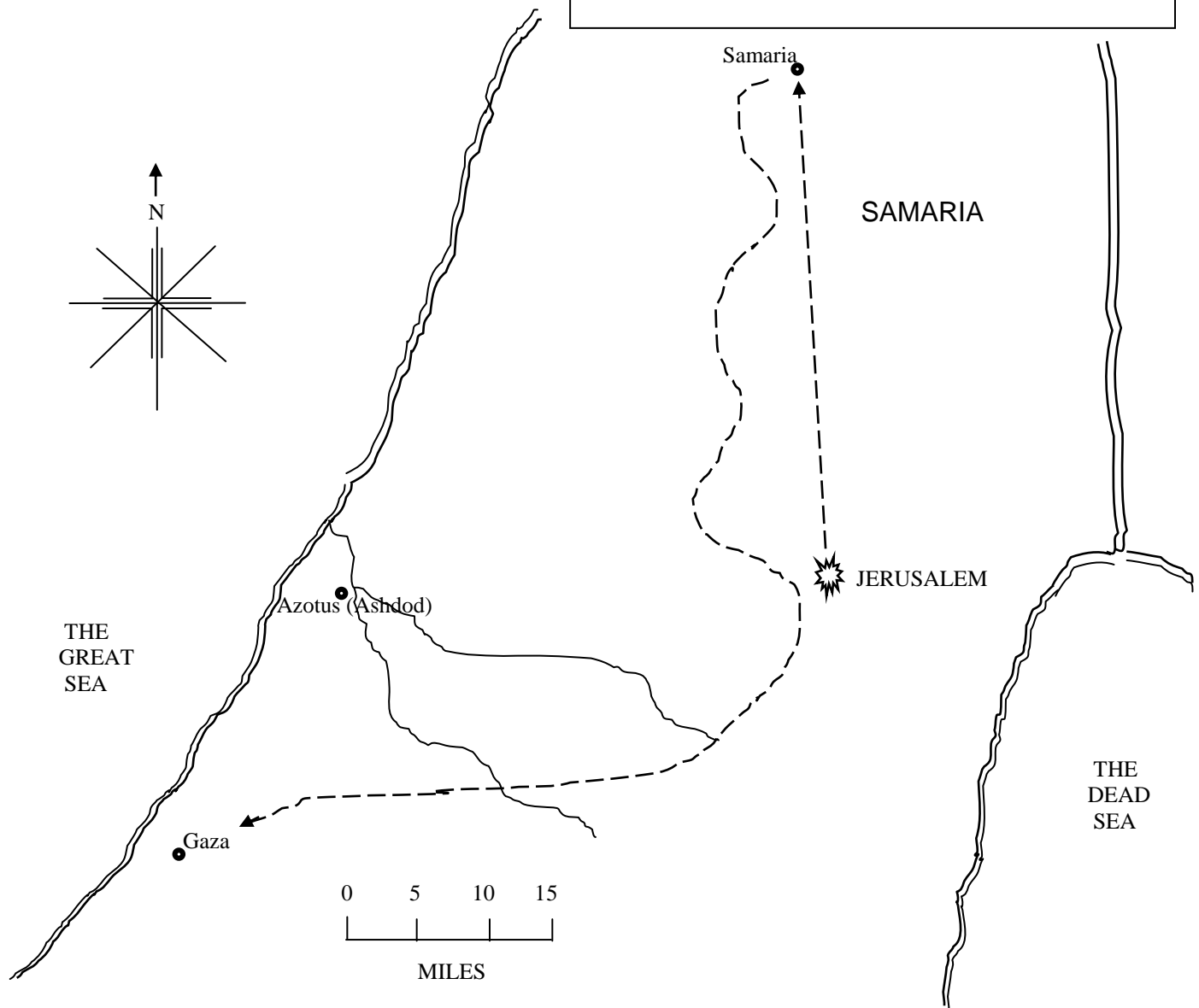
#8, scattered throughout the regions – Acts 8:1-40

4 Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.

5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them. 6 The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the signs which he was performing. 7 For in the case of many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out of them shouting with a loud voice; and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. 8 So there was much rejoicing in that city.

[5.] v:4-8, Samaria, From Matthew 10:5-6, When the disciples were first sent out, what was Christ's command to the them?

[6.] question [5.] again, proclaiming Christ to them. Now that the church was scattered, what changed?



## *the remotest part of the earth*

#8, scattered throughout the regions – Acts 8:1-40

9 Now there was a man named Simon, who formerly was practicing magic in the city and astonishing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great; 10 and they all, from smallest to greatest, were giving attention to him, saying, "This man is what is called the Great Power of God." 11 And they were giving him attention because he had for a long time astonished them with his magic arts. 12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike. 13 Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed.

14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.

18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! 21 "You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 "For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity."

[7.] v:9-13, formerly was practicing, Describe Simon's status before he believed in Christ.

[8.] v:14-17, they sent them Peter and John, Why did Peter and John go to Samaria?

[9.] v:14-17 again, During this transitional time, how did a Gentile receive the Holy Spirit?

[10.] v:18-19, Now when Simon saw that, What did Simon want to buy?

[11.] v:20-23, your heart is not right before God. Describe why Peter said Simon's heart was not right.

## *the remotest part of the earth*

#8, scattered throughout the regions – Acts 8:1-40

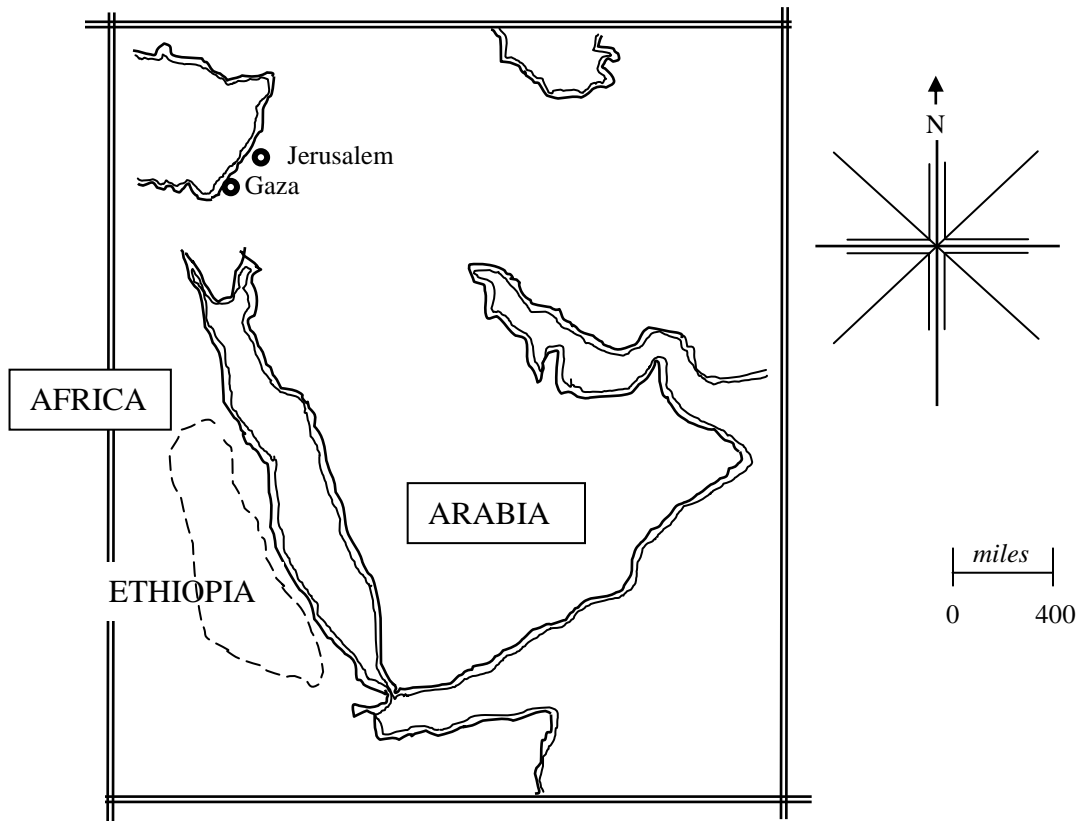
24 But Simon answered and said, " Pray to the Lord for me yourselves, so that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

25 So, when they had solemnly testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they started back to Jerusalem, and were preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

26 But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." ( This is a desert road.) 27 So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship,

[12.] v:24, Pray to the Lord for me, Why would Simon, or any other person, want someone else to pray for him?

[13.] v:26-27, come to Jerusalem to worship, Read Psalm 68:31 & I Kings 10:1-9, where might this eunuch have learned Judaism?



## *the remotest part of the earth*

#8, scattered throughout the regions – Acts 8:1-40

28 and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah.  
29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot."

30 Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this:

(Isaiah 53:7-8)

"HE WAS LED AS A SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER;

AND AS A LAMB BEFORE ITS SHEARER IS SILENT,  
SO HE DOES NOT OPEN HIS MOUTH.

33 "IN HUMILIATION HIS JUDGMENT WAS TAKEN AWAY;  
WHO WILL RELATE HIS GENERATION?

FOR HIS LIFE IS REMOVED FROM THE EARTH."

34 The eunuch answered Philip and said, "Please tell me, of whom does the prophet say this? Of himself or of someone else?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.

36 As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" 37[ And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." ] 38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.

[14.] v:28-29, Go up and join, What would have been the Holy Spirit's purpose for Philip's instruction?

[15.] v:28-29 again, Why or why wouldn't the Holy Spirit work the same way now?

[16.] v:30-33, unless someone guides me? Here's a guy that has a scroll of Isaiah the prophet. He can more than likely read Hebrew and/or Aramaic. He was steeped in Judaism. But from I John 2:27, what did Philip have that he didn't have?

[17.] v:34-35, of whom does the prophet say this? Though prophesied some 700-years before the event, of whom was this speaking?

[18.] v:36-38, What prevents me from being baptized? Was this person saved prior to his baptism, during his baptism or after?

[19.] v:36-38 again, Who was the first "born again" missionary to go to Africa?

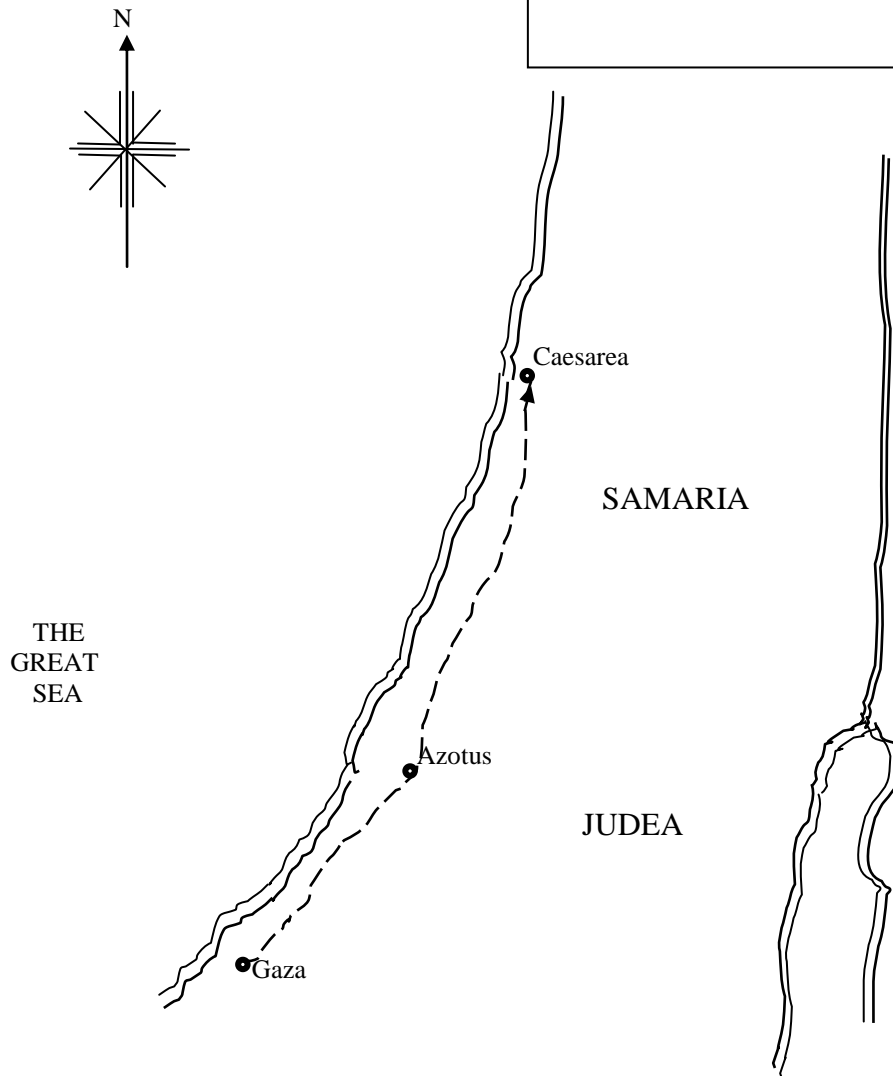
## *the remotest part of the earth*

#8, scattered throughout the regions – Acts 8:1-40

39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.  
40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he kept preaching the gospel to all the cities until he came to Caesarea.

[19.] v:39-40, the Lord snatched Philip away;  
**Why might you conclude that the Lord moved Philip to more people that were to be saved?**

[20.] v:39-40 again, went on his way rejoicing.  
Something to think about. Why or why don't you feel this new convert was received by his nation any better than Stephen was of his?



*the remotest part of the earth*

#8, scattered throughout the regions – Acts 8:1-40

## NOTES