

Acts 8:35

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

Analysis

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus—Philip's evangelistic method demonstrates Christ-centered Old Testament interpretation. Beginning with Isaiah 53's suffering servant passage (vv.32-33), Philip showed how Jesus fulfilled this prophecy. The Greek 'euēngelisato' (preached good news) indicates Philip declared Christ's death, resurrection, and salvific significance. **Began at the same scripture** models contextual evangelism—starting where the seeker is, then leading to Christ. This exemplifies Jesus' post-resurrection exposition (Luke 24:27) and Paul's hermeneutic that all Scripture testifies to Christ.

Historical Context

Philip, one of the seven deacons (6:5), was conducting evangelistic ministry in Samaria when the Spirit directed him to intercept the Ethiopian eunuch's chariot on the Gaza road. The eunuch, likely a God-fearer (Gentile attracted to Judaism), was reading Isaiah's scroll—an expensive possession indicating wealth and religious devotion. His question 'of whom speaketh the prophet?' (v.34) opened the door for Philip's gospel presentation.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How can you 'begin at the same scripture' by starting with people's existing spiritual questions?
2. What does Philip's method teach about the relationship between Old Testament prophecy and New Testament gospel?

Interlinear Text

ἀνοίξας δὲ ὁ Φίλιππος τὸ στόμα αὐτῷ καὶ
opened Then G3588 Philip G3588 mouth unto him and
G455 G1161 G5376 G4750 G846 G2532

ἀρξάμενος ἀπὸ τῆς γραφῆς ταύτης εὐηγγελίσατο αὐτῷ
began at G3588 scripture G3778 and preached unto him
G756 G575 G1124 G2097 G846

τὸν Ἰησοῦν
G3588 Jesus
G2424

Additional Cross-References

Luke 24:27 (Word): And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

Acts 18:28 (Word): For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publickly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

Acts 28:23 (Word): And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

1 Corinthians 2:2 (References Jesus): For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

Matthew 5:2 (Parallel theme): And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

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