

**BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE
SERMON OUTLINE**

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APRIL 8, 2018

“ARISE AND GO”

Acts 8: 26-39

Most of us are familiar with what is called the **GREAT COMMISSION** for the church and missions that Jesus gave in **Matthew 28:19-20**. **William Carey** who is often called the father of modern missions said about missions,

*“Expect great things from God;
attempt great things for God.”*

From our Scripture passage in *Acts 8* we also see the Great Commission being fulfilled by another servant of God whose name was Philip. He was commanded in *V-26* “to **ARISE AND GO**” and in *V-27* “So **HE AROSE AND WENT**”.

From this passage we learn several truths about how God uses His servants to fulfill the Great Commission. First:

I. GOD HAD A MAN vs. 26-29

Foreign missions was not something that the church or some brilliant strategist cooked up. It is God’s program. God has chosen to use **MEN** as we see in *V-26*. Let me share just a little bit about this man **PHILIP**.

We first learn about him in *Acts 6*. Then in *chapter 8* we see him as an evangelist in Samaria (*Acts 8:5-8*). **God always will use the vessel of HUMAN INSTRUMENTALITY**. And there must be two things involved and they are:

AVAILABILITY and ADAPTIBILITY

GOD HAD A MAN who was yielded and ready to do whatever the Holy Spirit led him to do. Secondly, we see:

II. GOD’S MAN HAD A MESSAGE Vs. 30-35

God was at work already in this man’s heart *Vs. 29-30*. God always works through the instrument of His Word the Holy Scriptures *V-30* (*Rom. 10:17*). He is reading from the 53rd Chapter of Isaiah vs. 7-8.

The Question is asked, and the Answer given in *Vs. 34-35*.

So 1st we see that **GOD HAD A MAN**, 2nd we learned that – **GOD’S MAN HAD A MESSAGE**. Now...Thirdly, we see:

**III. GOD’S MESSAGE HAD POWER
Vs. 36-39**

Let’s examine the power of God’s Message. He believed the Gospel *Vs. 36-37*. He Identified with Christ in believer’s baptism *v.38*. We know God’s message had power because he went away

“REJOICING” v-39. Joy is the outcome of genuine conversion.

Isaac Watts wrote...

At the Cross, at the cross
Where I first saw the light,
And the burden of my heart rolled away,
It was there by faith
I received my sight,
And now I am happy all the day!

PRAYER:

O Lord, may we each be full of the Spirit, full of the gospel, full of your compassion for people—sinners who need a Savior. May we each bear your touch today and in days to come! Please help us to be channels of your grace to all those around us. Thank you for your willingness to use us to reach others. In Jesus' name, Amen.