

The Lesson Of Simon The Sorcerer

C. God wanted him to become a godly man

Scripture: Acts 8:9-24

Introduction

There are three major lessons that God wants each of us to learn: He wants us to experience His power, walk in His fellowship, and develop His nature. Simon failed in all three categories.

I. He was interested in the miracles of God instead of the God of miracles

Acts 8:13 NIV Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles that he saw.

- A. The meraculous always draws a crowd
- B. God performs miracles to draw attention to Himself
- C. Our interest in the miraculous must be in the God of miracles

II. He was interested in the gift for gain instead of gaining the gift and Giver

Acts 8:18-19 NIV When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money and said, "Give me also this abilit so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

- A. He wanted to detract from the Giver
- B. He wanted men to look to him as the giver of the Spirit
- C. God shares his glory with no one

III. He was interested in the gain of money instead of the gain of godliness

Acts 8:22-23 NIV Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart. For I see that you are full of bitterness and captlve to sin.

- A. He wanted a religious scheme to deceive the public
- B. He wanted to be a "spiritual guru"