

Acts Ch.8:1-25

“From Tragedy to Triumph Pt. 1”

**How God Turns our Pain into Purpose*

1. V1-3 Tragedy (Saul Persecutes the Church)

- i. As followers of Jesus, we must expect **persecution** and **hardship**. God uses trials to **GROW** us in our faith and **SHOW** us His promises. (Count it all Joy-James 1:2, John 16:33, Romans 5:3-4, 1 Peter 5:10 and 2 Tim. 3:12)
- ii. In **death** we DO grieve **but** not like those without hope (1 Thes. 4:13, 1 Cor.15:55-57, 2 Cor. 5:8, Rev. 20:4)
- iii. **How does our faith stand** in times of **difficulty?** We must act like we READ THE BIBLE. **Your faith is only as strong as what it can endure.**

2. V4-8 Triumph (Philip Preaches Jesus in Samaria)

- I. God turns our **pain into His purpose**. “My pain for your gain”- God comforts us to make us “Comforters” not comfortable. (2 Cor. 1)
- II. The Gospel is to be **SHARED** not **SHELTERED** (Roman 1:16)
- III. God **promises** to “Work ALL things together for GOOD” for those who LOVE him (Romans 8:28)-**Do we know and Trust God’s Promises??**

3. V9-25 Trickery (Simon’s Profession of Faith?)

- i. *Our profession of faith is always a “lesson” of faith. **Saints God will NOT Be mocked (Galatians 6:7)***
- ii. *True Salvation results in a **transformed** life (2 Cor. 5:17)*
- iii. *Each person must “work out their OWN salvation with fear and trembling” (Philippians 2:12, John 15:5, 1Cor. 10:12)*
- iv. *Saints is there **FRUIT of Faith** in our Lives? Are we abiding?*

