



Persecuted and Scattered

Acts 8:1-8

# Why Consent? (8:1a)

Post-Exile (400 “Silent Years” Between OT & NT)



# Why Consent? (8:1a)

Post-Exile (400 “Silent Years” Between OT & NT)

+ They want right relationship with God



## Why Consent? (8:1a)

Post-Exile (400 “Silent Years” Between OT & NT)

+ They want right relationship with God

They interpreted “right relationship with God” to mean “obedience to law”



## Why Consent? (8:1a)

Post-Exile (400 “Silent Years” Between OT & NT)

- + They want right relationship with God

They interpreted “right relationship with God” to mean “obedience to law”

- + Right Intention // Wrong Truth



## Why Consent? (8:1a)

Post-Exile (400 “Silent Years” Between OT & NT)

- + They want right relationship with God

They interpreted “right relationship with God ” to mean “obedience to law”

- + Right Intention // Wrong Truth

The OT Prophets taught faithfulness to God



# Why Consent? (8:1a)

Then Jesus Comes on the Scene





# Why Consent? (8:1a)

Then Jesus Comes on the Scene

+ No one can keep law





## Why Consent? (8:1a)

Then Jesus Comes on the Scene

+ No one can keep law

Jews and Gentiles get Saved and Preach Gospel  
to the Judaists



## Why Consent? (8:1a)

Then Jesus Comes on the Scene

- + No one can keep law

Jews and Gentiles get Saved and Preach Gospel to the Judaists

- + Judaists Response "We are saved! We keep Law!"



# Persecuted and Scattered (8:1b)

There is a *Great* Persecution



# Persecuted and Scattered (8:1b)

There is a *Great* Persecution

- + First blood results in immediate momentum to end the Christian Church



# Persecuted and Scattered (8:1b)

There is a *Great* Persecution

- + First blood results in immediate momentum to end the Christian Church

The Church is Scattered

- + What's going to happen? We'll see.



# The Severity of Preaching Christ (8:2)



# The Severity of Preaching Christ (8:2)

**Remembering What Jesus Said**  
**Matthew 10:16-22**





# Saul Persecutes The Church



# Saul Persecutes The Church

Making Havoc

+ An ongoing action



# Saul Persecutes The Church

Making Havoc

- + An ongoing action
- + “Wild beasts tearing at flesh”



# Saul Persecutes The Church

Making Havoc

- + An ongoing action
- + “Wild beasts tearing at flesh”

From Every House, Taking Men and Women

- + Shows the commitment to the mission



# Saul, the Hero of the Judaist Faith

Saul was deeply committed to ending  
the Christian Movement



# Saul, the Hero of the Judaist Faith

Saul was deeply committed to ending  
the Christian Movement

**Did it work?**



## The Scattered (8:4-5)

They went out preaching the Word (Christ)!





## The Scattered (8:4-5)

They went out preaching the Word (Christ)!

- + Fulfillment of Acts 1:8

- + Fulfillment of Matthew 10:23 “When they persecute you in this city, flee to another.”



## The Scattered (8:4-5)

They went out preaching the Word (Christ)!

- + Fulfillment of Acts 1:8

- + Fulfillment of Matthew 10:23 “When they persecute you in this city, flee to another”

The Persecution of the Church Resulted in the  
Furthering of the Gospel!



# The Scattered (8:4-5)

Preaching Christ

+ The same verb tense as “making havoc”



# The Scattered (8:4-5)

Preaching Christ

+ The same verb tense as “making havoc”

As Saul Continually Persecutes the Church,  
The Church Continually Preaches Christ!



# The Response (8:6-7)

## Hearing & Seeing



# The Response (8:6-7)

Hearing & Seeing

+ To Understand and Internalize



# The Response (8:6-7)

Hearing & Seeing

- + To Understand and Internalize

The Miracles

- + Directly point towards Jesus ministry on Earth





# The Response (8:6-7)

Hearing & Seeing

- + To Understand and Internalize

The Miracles

- + Directly point towards Jesus ministry on Earth

- + Show the ultimate healing found in Salvation through Christ



# The Result (8:8)

JOY!



# The Result (8:8)

## JOY!

They understood in a very real and visceral way that right relationship with Christ is far more valuable than their own lives.



# Commitment to Christ No Matter What

Is your relationship with Christ:



# Commitment to Christ No Matter What

Is your relationship with Christ:

+ The most important in your life



# Commitment to Christ No Matter What

Is your relationship with Christ:

- + The most important in your life

Does your relationship with Christ:



# Commitment to Christ No Matter What

Is your relationship with Christ:

- + The most important in your life

Does your relationship with Christ:

- + Cause a deep joy regardless of circumstances





# The Takeaways

## The Persecuted



# The Takeaways

The Persecuted

+ Writing Letters to the Suffering



# The Takeaways

## The Persecuted

- + Writing Letters to the Suffering
- + VoM, Donate for Bibles



# The Takeaways

## The Persecuted

- + Writing Letters to the Suffering
- + VoM, Donate for Bibles

## Christ As the Focal Point



# The Takeaways

## The Persecuted

- + Writing Letters to the Suffering
- + VoM, Donate for Bibles

## Christ As the Focal Point

- + When you share Gospel



# The Takeaways

## The Persecuted

- + Writing Letters to the Suffering
- + VoM, Donate for Bibles

## Christ As the Focal Point

- + When you share Gospel
- + In your own Life



# The Takeaways

JOY!



# The Takeaways

JOY!

Lost → Found

Blind → See

Death → Life





# The Takeaways

JOY!

Lost → Found

Blind → See

Death → Life

This produces a joy that extinguishes even the most enticing or threatening things the world could ever throw at us.



