

*the book of*  
**ACTS**

*The account of the growth of the Church*



Capernaum

sea of Galilee

Nazareth

*Galilee*

*Samaria*

*Mediterranean Sea*

Jordan River

*Israel at the time of Jesus*

Jerusalem

*Judea*

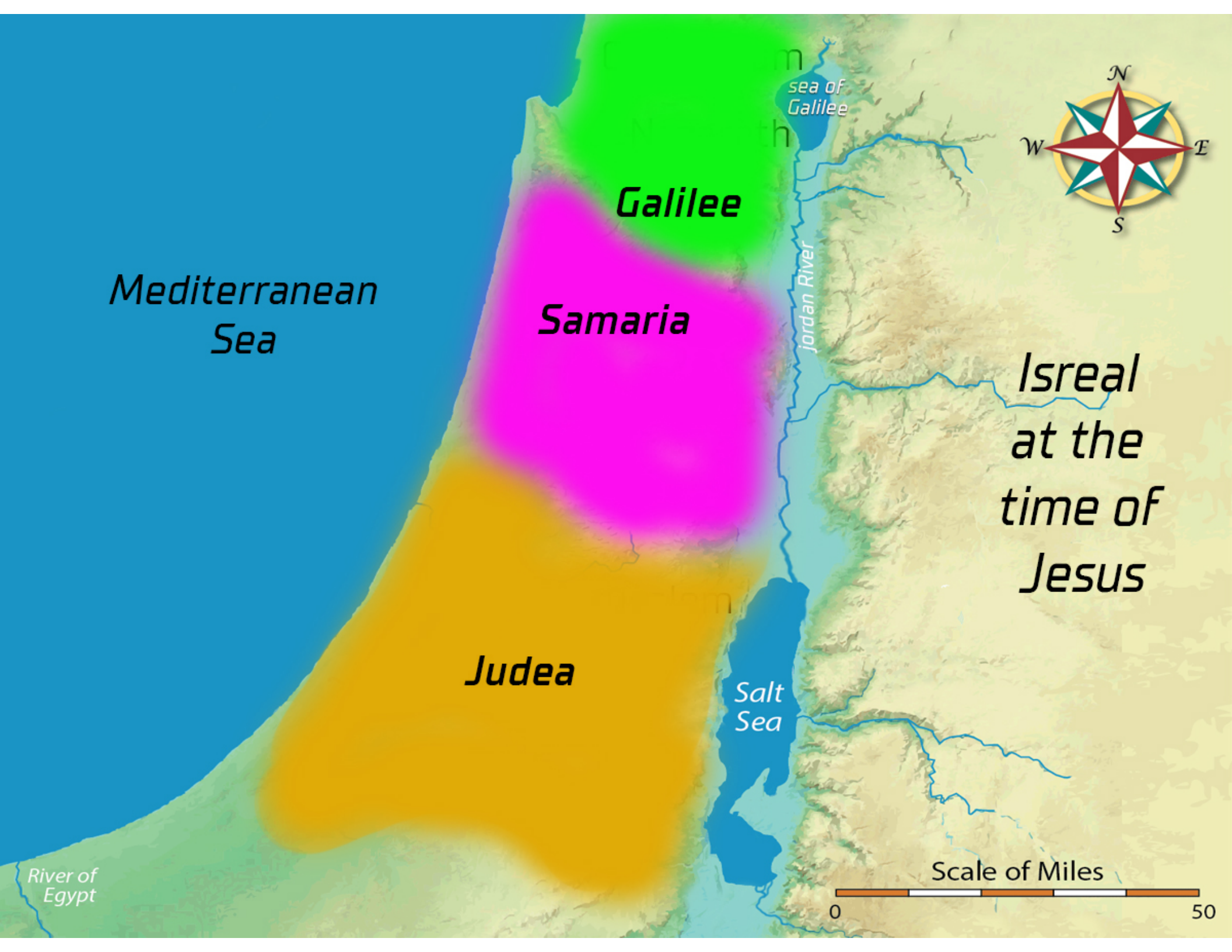
Salt Sea

River of Egypt

Scale of Miles

0

50



*Mediterranean  
Sea*

*Galilee*

*Samaria*

*Judea*

*sea of  
Galilee*

*Jordan River*

*Salt  
Sea*

*Isreal  
at the  
time of  
Jesus*



*Scale of Miles*

0 50

*River of  
Egypt*





# 8 JUDEA & SAMARIA

A MULTI-ETHNIC, INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT

HOW THE MOSTLY JEWISH, JERUSALEM-BASED

COMMUNITY OF JESUS

...BECAME...

8 PHILIP IN SAMARIA



9b-11a PETER & CORNELIUS

DON'T CALL IMPURE SOMETHING GOD HAS PURIFIED!

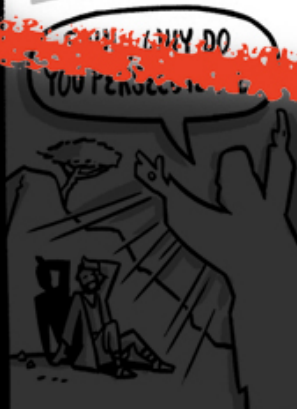


11b THE CHURCH IN ANTIOCH



• FIRST MULTI-ETHNIC CHURCH  
• FIRST USE OF "CHRISTIANS" (11:26)

9a CONVERSION OF SAUL OF TARSUS



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†=crown

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SAUL, WHY DO YOU PERSECUTE ME?

CONVERSION OF SAUL OF TARSUS

9a

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10a

†=crown

BARNABAS & PAUL

11b

- FIRST MULTI-ETHNIC CHURCH
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# 12 JUDEA & SAMARIA

A MULTI-ETHNIC,  
INTERNATIONAL  
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## 7b-11a PETER & CORNELIUS



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ASIA & SAMARIA

A MULTI-ETHNIC, INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT

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<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." <sup>27</sup> So he started out,

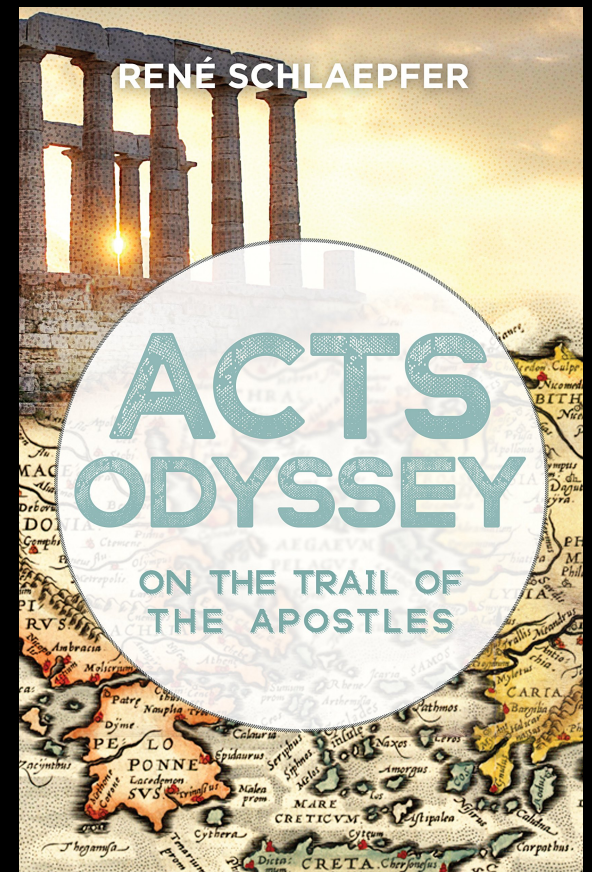
# What is Success?

Satisfying your pleasures? Money?

Popularity? ***How about this: Obeying God.***

Take Philip - experiencing wildly successful profession success, then God says leave it behind and head to the desert. ***Huh?*** It only make sense if the goal is to listen to God and follow his leading.

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” 27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian



<sup>26</sup> Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” <sup>27</sup> So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,

28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet.

Foreigner: Ethiopia

Eunuch: Despised / Prized

*The Jewish law viewed them as “unclean” and they would of been kept out of the temple. (Deut. 23:1; Lev. 21:20)*

*fe become effeminate.” (Ant. 4.290-91)*

<sup>28</sup> and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. <sup>29</sup> The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."<sup>30</sup> Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked.

31 “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:



“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
and as a lamb before its shearer is  
silent, so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation he was deprived of  
justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.”

*-Isaiah 53:7,8*

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” <sup>35</sup> Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup> As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?”

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<sup>3</sup> Let no **foreigner** who is bound to the Lord say,  
“The Lord will surely exclude me from his  
people.”

<sup>4</sup> “To the **eunuchs** who keep my Sabbaths, who  
choose what pleases me and hold fast to my  
covenant— <sup>5</sup> to them I will give within my temple  
and its walls a memorial and a name...

<sup>7</sup> my house will be called a house of  
prayer for **all nations**.”

*Isaiah 56:3-7*



(37) <sup>38</sup> And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

40 Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

*“The word of God continued  
to **increase** and **spread**”*

-Acts 12:24    Grow / spread / Increase : 14 Times

Acts 2:41; 2:47; 5:14; 6:7;  
9:42; 11:21; 12:24; 13:49; 14:1;  
14:21; 17:12; 18:8; 19:20; 21:20





AUGUST 22, 2018

## The world's most committed Christians live in Africa, Latin America – and the U.S.



Christians in Africa and Latin America tend to pray more frequently, attend religious services more frequently and consider religion more important in their lives than Christians elsewhere in the world...

Pew <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/08/22/the-worlds-most-committed-christians-live-in-africa-latin-america-and-the-u-s/>



AUGUST 22, 2018

## The world's most committed Christians live in Africa, Latin America – and the U.S.



There is a broader pattern of Christianity's “march southward” from wealthy countries to developing ones. This phenomenon is particularly evident in sub-Saharan Africa, where Christianity is rapidly growing.

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## The world's most committed Christians live in Africa, Latin America – and the U.S.



In every African country surveyed, more than 60% of Christians say they attend church at least weekly.

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# Listen up

The best advice/answers you can ever give are those that come from God's word, take advantage of reading it!

If you listen, people are always sharing their stories. Before Philip speaks he listens, then he asks a question. He share *only after* the Ethiopian invites it.