

Suffering: Fruitfulness and Frustration

Acts 8:1-24

Fruit and Frustration often travel together

Review: Suffering catalyzed change (8:1-4)

The fruit of suffering (8:4-13)

Scattered but not silent (v 4)

More response to the gospel (v 5-13)

The Samaritans in general (5-8)

Simon the magician in particular (9-13)

What was Phillip's message?

The Word and Christ were central (4-5)

Freedom from slavery to sin (6-7)

The JOY of the Lord prevails (8)

The frustration of the fraud (8:14-24)

Inclusion or second work of grace?

Suspect response

How do you identify a fraud? They:

1. **Exalt** someone other than Christ (9-10)

2. Exercise a **counterfeit** power (11)

3. Awe at the signs rather than the **Savior** (12-13)

4. Operate with **selfish** motives

Key Principles

Some who look genuine aren't!

Certainty of salvation is God's business.

Some who fear they aren't genuine, are.

New believers can quickly revert to the acts of the old nature.

Take it Home

Ensure you aren't a **fraud**.

In ministry, don't be **discouraged** by the frauds.