



Church Polity in the Book of Acts

Acts 1:8 & 8:1-6

5/26/19 PM

THE CHURCH AND ITS NEED TO EXPAND

Introduction:

"I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light."
- Ion Keith Falconer (1856-1887)
Scottish missionary to Yemen

I. THE MISSION (Acts 1:8)

A. The Power (*dunamis*)

B. The Personnel (*marturion*)

C. The Program

Jerusalem (Acts 2-7)

Judea and Samaria (Acts 8-12)

Uttermost Parts (Acts 13-28)

II. THE MOVE (Acts 8:1-6)

A. The Church Faces Persecution (vs. 1-3)

The Intention of the Authorities

The Initial Success

The Intensity of the Persecution

B. The Church Focuses on Preaching (vs. 4-6)

Redirection (vs. 4)

Revival (vs. 5-6)

Rejoicing (vs. 8)

C. The Church Finds Its Passion

Evangelism

Edification

Expansion

"Kill us, torture us, condemn us, grind us to dust; your injustice is proof that we are innocent. The oftener we are mown down by you, the more in number we grow; the blood of Christians is seed."

- Tertullian
(c. 155-240 AD)

Conclusion:

- 1) Trials, persecutions, or times of confusion are opportune times to proclaim Christ.
- 2) Every Christian, not just those in "full time" service, should make proclaiming Christ his aim.
- 3) The proclamation of the Gospel brings great joy wherever it is discharged.