

Berea Baptist Church
Surrey BC

summary
slide

- subject On His Way Rejoicing
- Scriptures Acts 8:26-40
- series resurrection in the Book of Acts
- date May 25, 2014
- church year Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year A
- preacher Ward Cowie
- other Gerry & Janet Davison vows renewal

PowerPoint -> two pages



*the early
expansion of
Christianity
in Acts*

see Acts 1:8



*a portrait of
the Ethiopian
eunuch in
Acts 8*

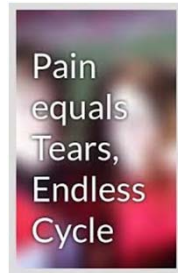
- ◆ no name is given
- ◆ his nationality -> Ethiopian
- ◆ his career -> a successful royal treasurer
- ◆ his calendar -> recently visited Jerusalem
- ◆ his desire -> to worship the one God
- ◆ his purchase -> a scroll of the prophet Isaiah
- ◆ his "limiting" condition -> castrated [Deut. 23]
- ◆ his spiritual status -> excluded to the edges

*a tough cycle that
appears endless*

778-778-7878



*a sorrow & shame cycle that
appears endless
...even for this sincere seeker
of the true God*

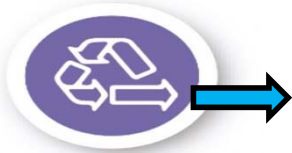


- ◆ no marriage
- ◆ no children
- ◆ very limited access to the Temple
- ◆ no access to the people of God
- ◆ no access to God ??



*... until the Holy Spirit
dramatically breaks
the sorrow cycle*

- ◆ sends Philip all the way to Gaza
- ◆ arranges the exact Scripture reading
- ◆ gifts Philip to explain the new welcome through the risen Christ [*Isaiah 56*]
- ◆ sends the baptized eunuch home again ... but now rejoicing forever !



*choosing to sing
"Trading My Sorrows"*

- ◆ the man is still a eunuch and a Gentile
- ◆ the man is still excluded from the Temple
- ◆ but the story of the risen Jesus has now set him free to choose to "trade in" his sorrow and shame... for joy!