

“Two Baptisms - Two Gifts!”

Acts 8:9-25

But there was a certain man called **Simon Magnus**, who previously practiced **sorcery** in the city and astonished the **People of Samaria**, claiming that he was someone great, to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, **“This man has the great power of God.”** And they heeded him because he had **astonished them with his sorceries for a long time**. But when they believed **Philip** as he **Preached the Things Concerning the Kingdom of God** and the **Name of Jesus Christ**, both **men and women** were **Baptized (Water Baptism of Repentance)**. Then **Simon** himself also believed; and when he was **Baptized** he continued with **Philip**, and was **amazed**, seeing the **Miracles and Signs (Wonders)** which were done. Now when the **Apostles** who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the **Word of God (Gospel Of Good News)**, they sent **Peter** and **John** to them, who, when they had come down, **Prayed** for them that they **Might Receive the Holy Spirit**. **For as yet He (Spirit) had fallen upon none of them.** They had only been **Baptized (Water Baptism of Repentance)** in the **Name of the Lord Jesus**. Then they **Laid Hands** on them, and they **Received the Holy Spirit (Fire Baptism of Indwelling)**. And when **Simon** saw that through the **Laying on of the Apostles’ Hands the Holy Spirit Was Given**, **he offered them money**, saying, ***“Give me this Power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”*** But **Peter rebuked** him, **“Your money perish with you, because you thought that the Gift of God (Holy Spirit) could be purchased with money!** ***You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and Pray to God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity.”*** Then **Simon** answered, **“Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me.”** So, when the **Apostles had Testified and Preached the Word of the Lord (Gospel of Good News)**, they returned to Jerusalem, **Preaching the Gospel (Of Good News)** in many villages of the **Samaritans**. **Acts 8:9-25 (NKJV)**

Q: “Who Was Simon Magnus?”

A: A Sorcerer of Dark Magic & Power!

But there was a certain man called **Simon Magnus**, who previously practiced **sorcery** in the city & astonished the **People of Samaria**, claiming that he was someone great, to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, **“This man has the great power of God.”** And they heeded him because he had **astonished them with his sorceries for a long time**. **Acts 8:9-11**

Q: “Is Simon Magnus Ever Mentioned Again In The Scriptures?”

A: NO!

Q: “Is Simon Magnus Ever Mentioned In Other Extra-Biblical Sources?”

A: YES!

Q: “Who Was Simon’s Original Antagonist In The Countryside of Samaria?”

A: Philip the Deacon of the Early Church

Then **Philip** went down to the **City of Samaria** and **Preached Christ** to them. And the **multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken** by **Philip**, **Hearing** and **Seeing** the **Miracles (Signs & Wonders)** which **Philip** did. For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; **and many** who were paralyzed, and lame **were healed**. And there was **Great Joy** in that **City of Samaria ...** **Acts 8:5-8**

... But when they believed Philip as he Preached the Things Concerning the Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ, both men & women were Baptized (Water Baptism of Repentance).

Acts 8:12

Here We Witness The **First Baptism** – The **First Gift Of God!**

Q: “What Does This **First Baptism Of Water & Repentance** Do In The Life Of The Believer?”

A: This First Gift Is The Forgiveness Of Sins Through The Gift Of The Perfect Sacrifice Of Jesus Christ’s Life & Death!

Simon Observed That This **First Baptism** Brought The **Gift of Regeneration & New Creation** To All Those That Believed & Received It!

Then Simon Desired This Power For Himself As Long As It Cost Him Nothing!

Then **Simon** himself also believed; and when he was Baptized, he continued with **Philip**, and was **amazed**, seeing the **Miracles** and **Signs (Wonders)** which were done. Acts 8:13

Q: “How Did The Church Respond To The News That New Believers Had Come To Faith In Jesus Christ Among The Samaritans?”

A: They Sent Out A Contingent Of The Apostles To Affirm & Verify These Reports!

Now when the **Apostles** who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the **Word of God (Gospel Of Good News)**, they sent **Peter** and **John** to them, who, when they had come down ... Acts 8:14-15a

Q: “What Did Peter & John Do After Arriving In Samaria?”

A1: Prayed To Affirm The Truth Of The Samaritans Sincerity Of Faith – **Yes!**

A2: Prayed To Confirm If The Samaritans Truly Were Filled With The Fullness Of God – **No!** Prayed for them that they **Might Receive the Holy Spirit**. For as yet He (Spirit) had fallen upon none of them. They had only been **Baptized (Water Baptism of Repentance)** in the **Name of the Lord Jesus**. Acts 8:15b-16

Here We Witness The **Second Baptism** – The **Second Gift Of God!**

Q: “What Did The Apostles Do To Grant This Gift Of God?”

A: They Prayed & Laid Their Hands On The New Believers That They Might Receive The **Second Gift** – The **Fullness Of The Indwelling Holy Spirit**

By Receiving The Second Baptism Of Fire & Spirit

Then they **Laid Hands** on them, and they **Received the Holy Spirit (Fire Baptism of Indwelling)**. Acts 8:17

Q: “What Does This **Second Baptism Of Fire & Spirit** Do In The Life Of The Believer?”

A: This **Second Gift Is The Presence Of God Indwelling The Believers Life & Giving Them Power To:** Preach, Teach, Convict, Pray, & Perform Miracles In The Name Of God!

Simon Observed That This **Second Baptism** Brought The **Gift of Divine Presence & Power** To All Those That Believed & Received It!

Then Simon Desired This Power For Himself No Matter What The Cost!

And when **Simon** saw that through the **Laying on of the Apostles’ Hands the Holy Spirit Was Given**, he offered them money, saying, “Give me this Power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” Acts 8:18-19

Q: “What Do The Apostles Do In Response To Simon Magnus’ Request?”

A1: They **Rebuke Him** For His Sin To Convict His Spirit!

A2: They **Offer Him** Repentance & Forgiveness!

But Peter rebuked him, “Your money perish with you, because you thought that the Gift of God (Holy Spirit) could be purchased with money! You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and Pray to God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity.” Acts 8:20-23

Q: “What Was Simon Magnus’ Response To Simon Peters’ Rebuke, & Offer Of Repentance?”

A1: Misunderstanding?

Or

A2: Rejection?

Then Simon answered, “Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me.” Acts 8:24

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Now Back To The Rest Of The Story Concerning The Life Of Simon Magnus

Q: “Is Simon Magnus Ever Mentioned In Other Extra-Biblical Sources?”

A: YES!

Simon Magnus Is Mentioned By Justin Martyr & Others In Early Church History

- 1) Leader of the Simonians – Gnostic Sect Of Believers & Teachers
- 2) Leader in Rome – Statue Erected To Him During Time of the Emperors Claudius & Nero

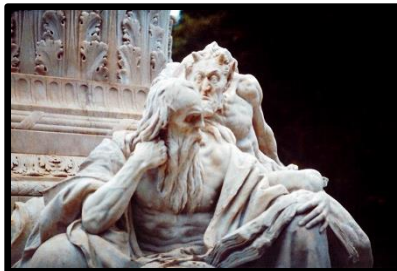
“Hail Simon, the Power of God in Human Form!”



In other words, Simon was worshipped by his adherents to his faith, For his magic, sorcery, dark arts, and being a “demi-god” on the earth. This is in line with the Roman Pantheon of true gods, & then their underlings the demi-gods, Who supposedly had spirits (daimons) indwell them to empower them.

Simon Magnus Supposedly Performed A Magical Feat

Displaying His Great Power In The Days Of The Emperor Nero



So, it’s clear that Simon Magnus got his power from Satan and his demons. And it’s also clear, that he died, trying to rely on his demonic power & fame. He also never repented of his sins, nor did he come to faith in Jesus Christ as His Lord! And He continuously contended with Peter & Paul & the Early Church Until the very day of his final demise!

Now Back To The Rest Of The Story Of The Early Church

So, when the **Apostles had Testified** and **Preached the Word of the Lord (Gospel of Good News)**, they returned to Jerusalem, **Preaching the Gospel (Of Good News)** in many villages of the **Samaritans**. **Acts 8:25**

LET'S RISE & PRAY

*“Let Us Be Like Philip, & Peter, & John,
Always Preaching & Teaching The Word of the Lord
Offering The Gospel of Good News To All We Meet!
So That They Will All Have Access To Our God As We Do!
Let Us Through Prayer & Devotion, Bring Conviction & Offer Repentance,
That Our Unbelieving Friends, Neighbors, & Acquaintances,
May Partake Of Two Baptisms & Receive Two Gifts From God Our Father
Just As We Are Partakers In His Full Grace & Indwelling Presence In Our Lives Today!”*