God's Kingdom is Built on the Authentic Gospel & an Authentic Faith

March 6, 2011 * Bethel Baptist Church * Tim Davis
Acts 8:5-25

The Authentic Message

Philip, Peter & John preached that <u>Jesus</u>, <u>the Christ</u>, is the only way to enter God's Kingdom.

"proclaimed the Christ" v.5
"preached the Good News of the Kingdom of God" v.12
"and the name of Jesus Christ" v.12
"the Word of God" v.14
"Repent of this wickedness" v.22
"testified and proclaimed the Word of the Lord" v.25
"preaching the Gospel" v.25

An Authentic Faith

Many Samaritans believed in their <u>hearts</u> & were baptized as Christians. Simon Magus believed in his <u>head</u> & was baptized for show. 2 Timothy 3:1-9

We don't get <u>baptized</u> to become Christians, we become Christians so we can get <u>baptized</u>. Your baptism is only as authentic as your faith.

Authentic faith requires spiritual certainty, not just mental assent. Hebrews 11:1, Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 22:37

Those who genuinely trust Christ only, experience the filling of the Holy Spirit, & freedom from the bondage of sin. vv.7 & 17 (21-23)