

**I'll Buy That
Acts 8:18-25**

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I. A self-serving request. Acts 8:18-19

Simon thought that the power of the Holy Spirit was similar to his magic and that it could be bought or sold for _____ gain.

- *Simony* can refer to the inappropriate exchange of temporal (material) things for _____ benefits, which is practiced in some churches today that employ a give-to-get mentality.

Financial giving is a part of our response to the LORD; however, we should give because the love of Christ _____ us to give, not to buy forgiveness or expect something in return.

II. Simon's correction. Acts 8:20-21

People who want to either get rich by misusing the Gospel or try to purchase God's favor are an outrage. We receive the gift of God by grace alone, through faith alone, in _____ alone.

- Some say the words from Peter to Simon, "**Your money perish with you**" are proof that Simon was _____ towards hell.

"Heart" denotes the center of all physical and spiritual life, the vigor and sense of physical life, and the center and seat of _____ life. (G4937)

III. The cure for the poison of sin. Acts 8:22-23

The Bible tells us that true repentance will result in a change of mind as well as a change of _____ for the follower of Christ.

- Thayer's Greek lexicon states that being "**poisoned by bitterness**" means Simon had _____ wickedness.

2 Corinthians 13:5 _____ yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified.

IV. Fruit of repentance. Acts 8:24-25

Some say instead of humbling himself before the LORD, Simon asked Peter to go before the LORD to pray that he might be spared from the _____ of his sin.

- We cannot be sure what happened in Simon's _____, whether he truly repented and got saved or if all of this was lip service.

V. Conclusion.

Grace does not ignore God's justice; it simply claims God's justice and penalty _____ in full in light of the Cross.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

1. Read **Acts 8:18-19**. Why did Simon offer money to the Apostles? What does this reveal about his understanding of the Holy Spirit and God's power? Did Simon misunderstand the nature of spiritual gifts?
Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 Corinthians 12:28, Romans 11:29, Romans 12:3-8
2. Read **Acts 8:20-21**. What was penance in the early Roman Catholic Church? What does the word *Simony* mean? What is the correct response for giving within the life of a Christian today?
Titus 3:4-5, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2, Malachi 3:10, 2 Corinthians 9:7
3. How did Peter react to Simon's offer to purchase the gift of God? Should Peter's warning be given to some in the ministry today?
Acts 3:19, Luke 24:47, Acts 3:19, Hebrews 4:12-13
4. Was Simon truly converted before Peter's correction, or was his faith empty and without a true heart conversion?
1 John 2:16-17, Jeremiah 17:9-10, Matthew 7:22-23
5. What are some ways people today might be tempted to "buy" God's favor or use spiritual things for personal gain? What are some practical ways we can guard our hearts against greed?
Colossians 3:5, Luke 12:15, 1 Timothy 6:10, Proverbs 15:27
6. Discuss the Practical Application of the sermon.