

# Acts.

# After Stephen is killed

→ THE CHURCH IS PERSECUTED

And Saul approved of their killing him. On that day a **great persecution broke out against the church** in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. <sup>2</sup> Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. <sup>3</sup> But **Saul began to destroy the church.** Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison. <sup>4</sup> Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. <sup>5</sup> Philip went...

ACTS 8:1-5A NIV

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→ THE GOSPEL GOES WITH THEM

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ACTS 8:1-5A NIV



Philip went down to a city in **Samaria** and  
proclaimed the Messiah there.

ACTS 8:5 NIV





A HISTORY OF

# The Samaritans

1 Kings



United Monarchy  
of Israel



A HISTORY OF

# The Samaritans

1 Kings

1 Kings



United Monarchy  
of Israel

North Israel  
& South Judah



A HISTORY OF

# The Samaritans

1 Kings



United Monarchy  
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North Israel  
& South Judah

2 Kings



Assyrian conquest  
& mixed descendants







A HISTORY OF

# The Samaritans

1 Kings

United Monarchy  
of Israel

1 Kings

North Israel  
& South Judah

2 Kings

Assyrian conquest  
& mixed descendants

Ezra

Temple  
conflict



For Jews do not associate with **Samaritans.**

JOHN 4:9B NIV





# Jesus' heart was for the Samaritans.





“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and **you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and **Samaria**, and to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8 NIV



Philip went down to a city in Samaria and **proclaimed the Messiah there.**<sup>6</sup> When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all **paid close attention to what he said.**<sup>7</sup> For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed.<sup>8</sup> So there was **great joy in that city.**

ACTS 8:5-8 NIV





# Simon

→ SORCERER

Now for some time a man named **Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria.** He boasted that he was someone great,<sup>10</sup> and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, “This man is rightly called the Great Power of God.”<sup>11</sup> They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his sorcery.

ACTS 8:9-11 NIV





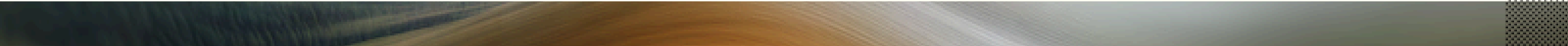
# Simon

SORCERER

→ EGOTISTICAL

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ACTS 8:9-11 NIV





# Simon

SORCERER

EGOTISTICAL

→ CAPTIVATING

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ACTS 8:9-11 NIV







THE SORCERER

# Simon

**They followed him** because **he had amazed them** for a long time with his sorcery.

ACTS 8:11 NIV

THE EVANGELIST

# Philip

But when **they believed Philip** as he proclaimed the good news of the **kingdom of God** and the **name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.**

ACTS 8:12 NIV



Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he  
**followed Philip** everywhere, **astonished** by the great  
signs and miracles he saw.

ACTS 8:13 NIV





**When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria.** <sup>15</sup> When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, <sup>16</sup> because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**ACTS 8:14-17 NIV**

**Believed** → Baptized → Apostles → Holy Spirit

“...had **accepted** the word of God...”

ACTS 8:14-17 NIV



Believed → **Baptized** → Apostles → Holy Spirit

“...they had simply been **baptized** in the name of the Lord Jesus.”

ACTS 8:14-17 NIV



Believed → Baptized → **Apostles** → Holy Spirit

“...they **prayed** for the new believers... Peter and John **placed their hands on them...**”

ACTS 8:14-17 NIV



Believed → Baptized → Apostles → Holy Spirit

“...they **received** the Holy Spirit.”

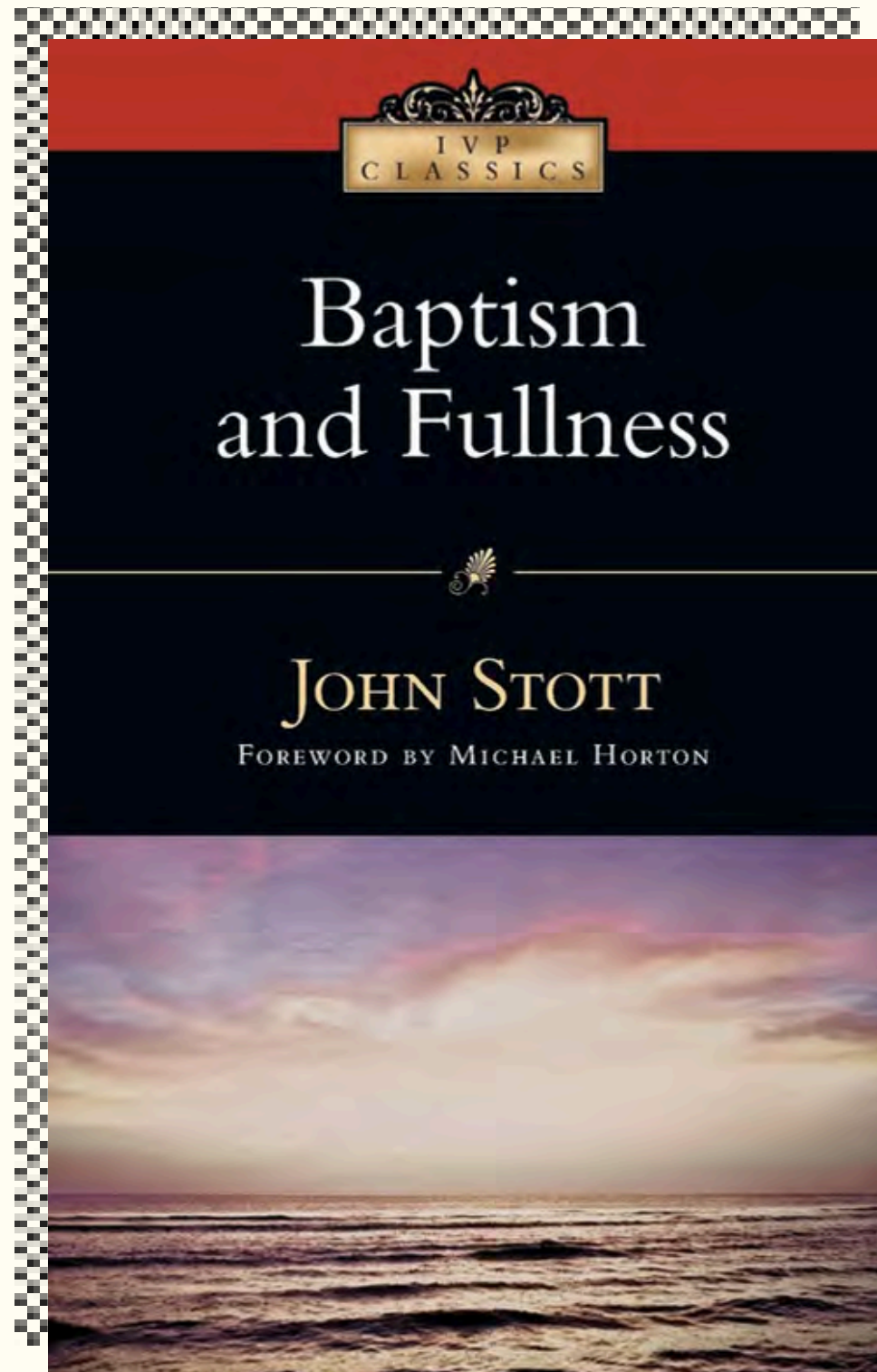
ACTS 8:14-17 NIV

**Believed → Baptized → Apostles → Holy Spirit**

**“...they received the Holy Spirit.”**

ACTS 8:14-17 NIV





“The most probable answer (to this abnormal situation) is not just that this was the first time the gospel had been preached outside Jerusalem, but that these converts were Samaritans...

And since this historical situation cannot be repeated, I cannot see how the abnormality in the Samaritan reception of the Spirit could be taken as precedent for us today.”

JOHN STOTT, BAPTISM & FULLNESS

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- UNDERSTANDING -

# Acts 8:14-17

- Regeneration comes from the Holy Spirit.
- Baptism is a choice, the Holy Spirit is a gift.
- They verified by the Apostles, we verify by the word of God.
- Full knowledge doesn't happen at conversion.



# Simon

→ HEART REVEALED

When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles’ hands, **he offered them money**<sup>19</sup> and said, “Give me also this ability so that **everyone on whom I lay my hands** may receive the Holy Spirit.”

ACTS 8:18-19 NIV





# Simon

HEART REVEALED  
→ SIN EXPOSED

Peter answered: “**May your money perish with you**, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! <sup>21</sup> You have no part or share in this ministry, because **your heart is not right before God.** <sup>22</sup> **Repent** of this wickedness and pray to the Lord in the hope that he may forgive you for having such a thought in your heart. <sup>23</sup> For I see that **you are full of bitterness and captive to sin.**”

ACTS 8:20-23 NIV

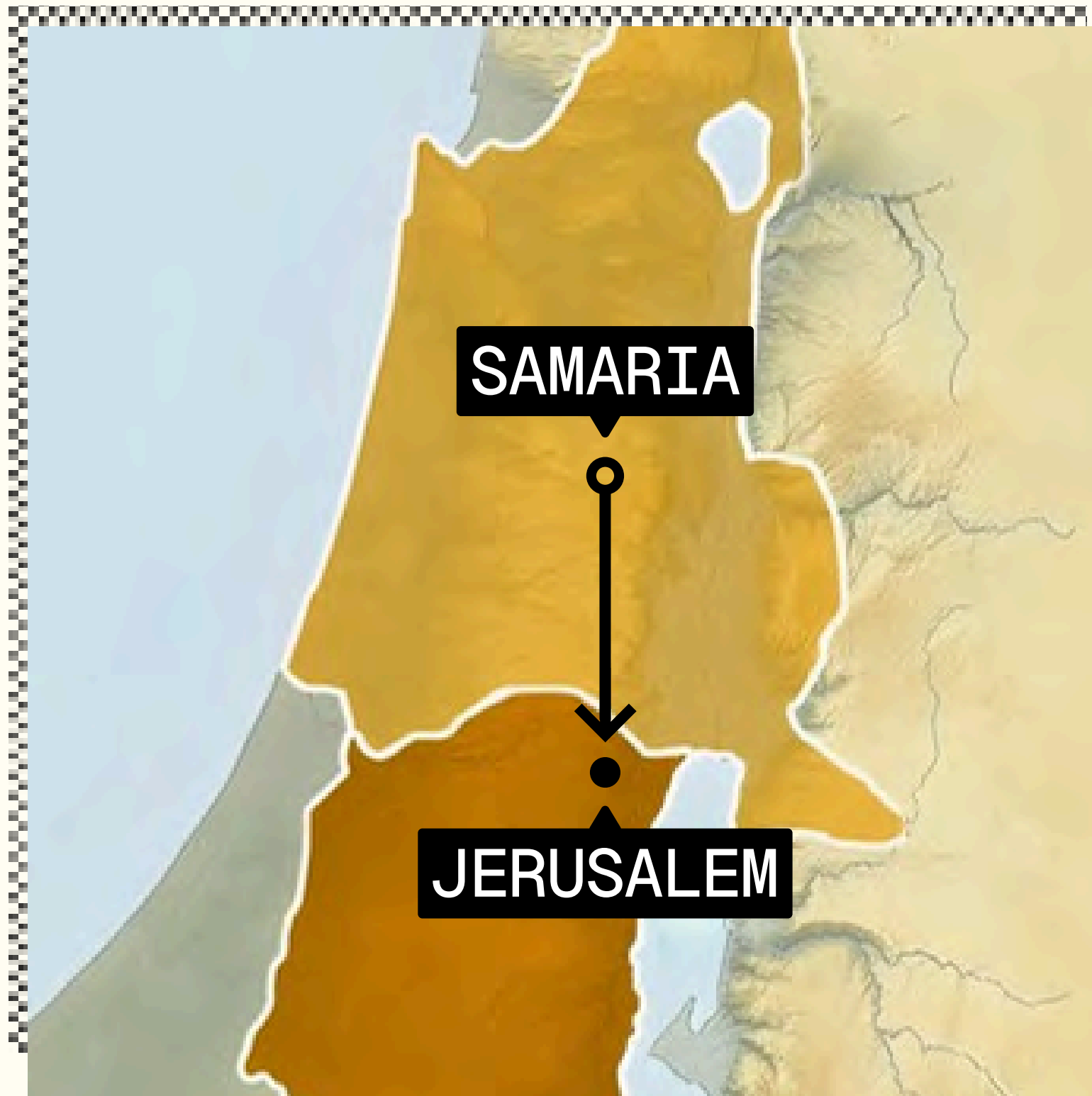


# Simon

HEART REVEALED  
SIN EXPOSED  
→ REPENTANCE?

Then Simon answered, “**Pray to the Lord for me** so that nothing you have said may happen to me.”

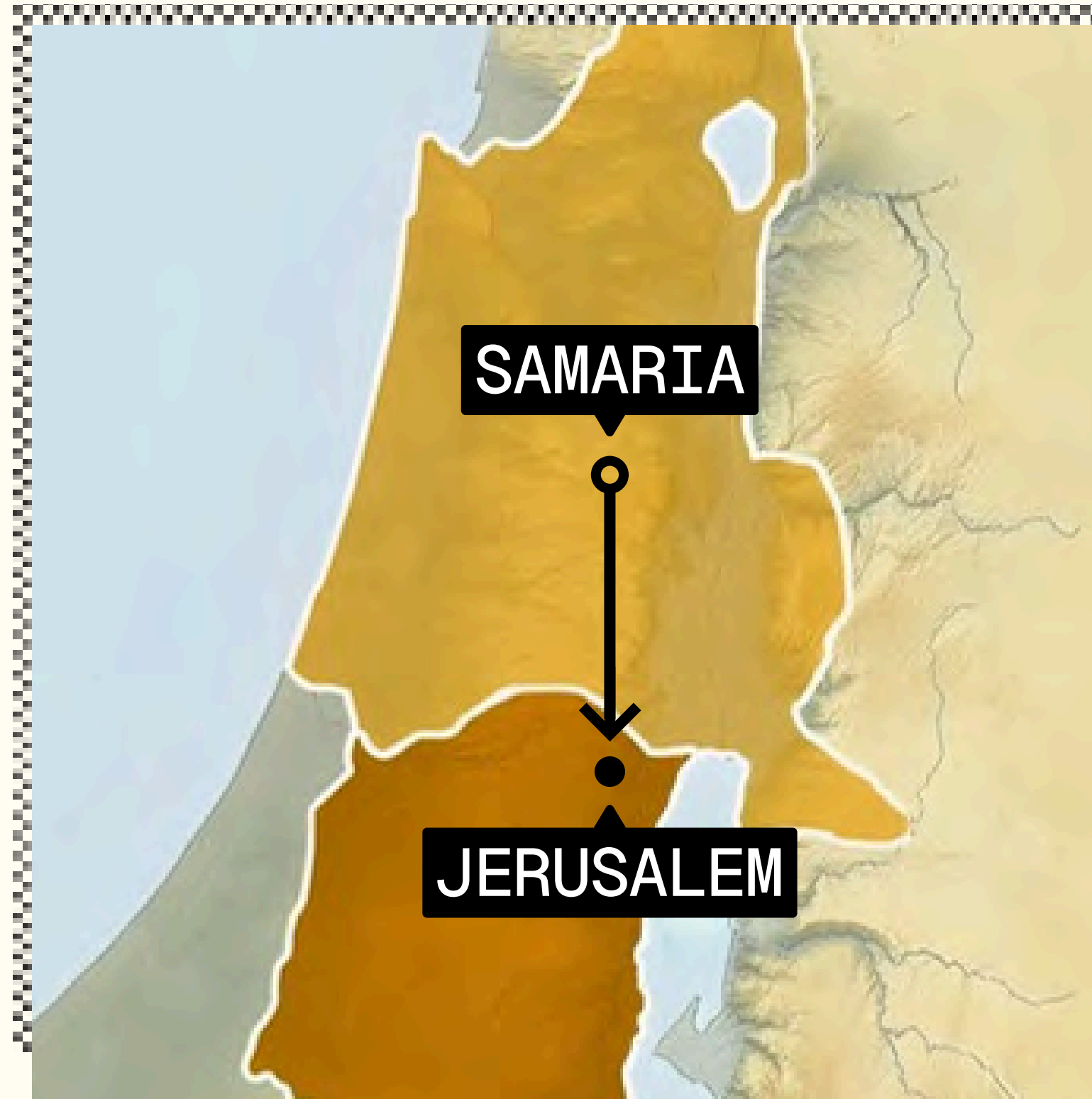
ACTS 8:24 NIV



As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, **Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.** <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a **Samaritan village** to get things ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When the disciples **James and John** saw this, they asked, “**Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?**” <sup>55</sup> But Jesus turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then he and his disciples went to another village.

LUKE 9:51-56 NIV





After they had further proclaimed the word of the Lord and testified about Jesus, **Peter and John** returned to Jerusalem, **preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.**

ACTS 8:25 NIV

# Follow Jesus to the Samaritans

