

## Great (Big) Joy

Mt. 28:1-8

- **3 By-Products of Great Joy:**

- Volume! David appoints Solomon to be King!  
(1 Kings 1:40)

*And all the people came up after him, and the people piped with pipes, and rejoiced with **great joy**, so that the earth rent with the sound of them.*

- Excitement! The People rejoice when the King brought back the practice of Passover!  
(2 Chr. 30:26)

*So there was **great joy** in Jerusalem: for since the time of Solomon the son of David king of Israel there was not the like in Jerusalem.*

- Opportunity! This celebration followed the rebuilding of the walls in Jerusalem!  
(Neh 12:43)

*Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and rejoiced: for God had made them rejoice with **great joy**: the wives also and the children rejoiced: so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard even afar off.*

- What does it cost of have “Mega” Joy?  
(Acts 8:1-8)

### **I. Determination! (V.1& 2)**

- We must not be distracted by the outward attacks of the opposition!

*And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.*

*2 And devout men carried Stephen to his burial, and made great lamentation over him.*

- They faced an outward attack!

“a *great* persecution!”

- They faced inner suffering!  
“*great* lamentation / mourning”

## II. Dedication! (V.3 & 4)

- We must view the preaching of the Word a Church-wide calling and must accept our call to preach!

*As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.*

*4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.*

- This was a Church-wide attack!  
“*Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house,*”
- This was unified effort of devotion!  
“*They...went everywhere preaching the word.*”

## III. Direction! (V.5)

- We must be ready to go wherever destiny might lead us and accept God’s will as a good thing!

*Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.*

- God’s directing hand does not always send us where we would chose but rather where He would chose!  
“*Philip went down to the city of Samaria!*”
- He knew what to do when He got there!  
“*Phillip...preached Christ unto them.*”

## Conclusion:

- Verses 6-8

*And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.*

*7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.*

*8 And there was great joy in that city.*

