



iDENTITY

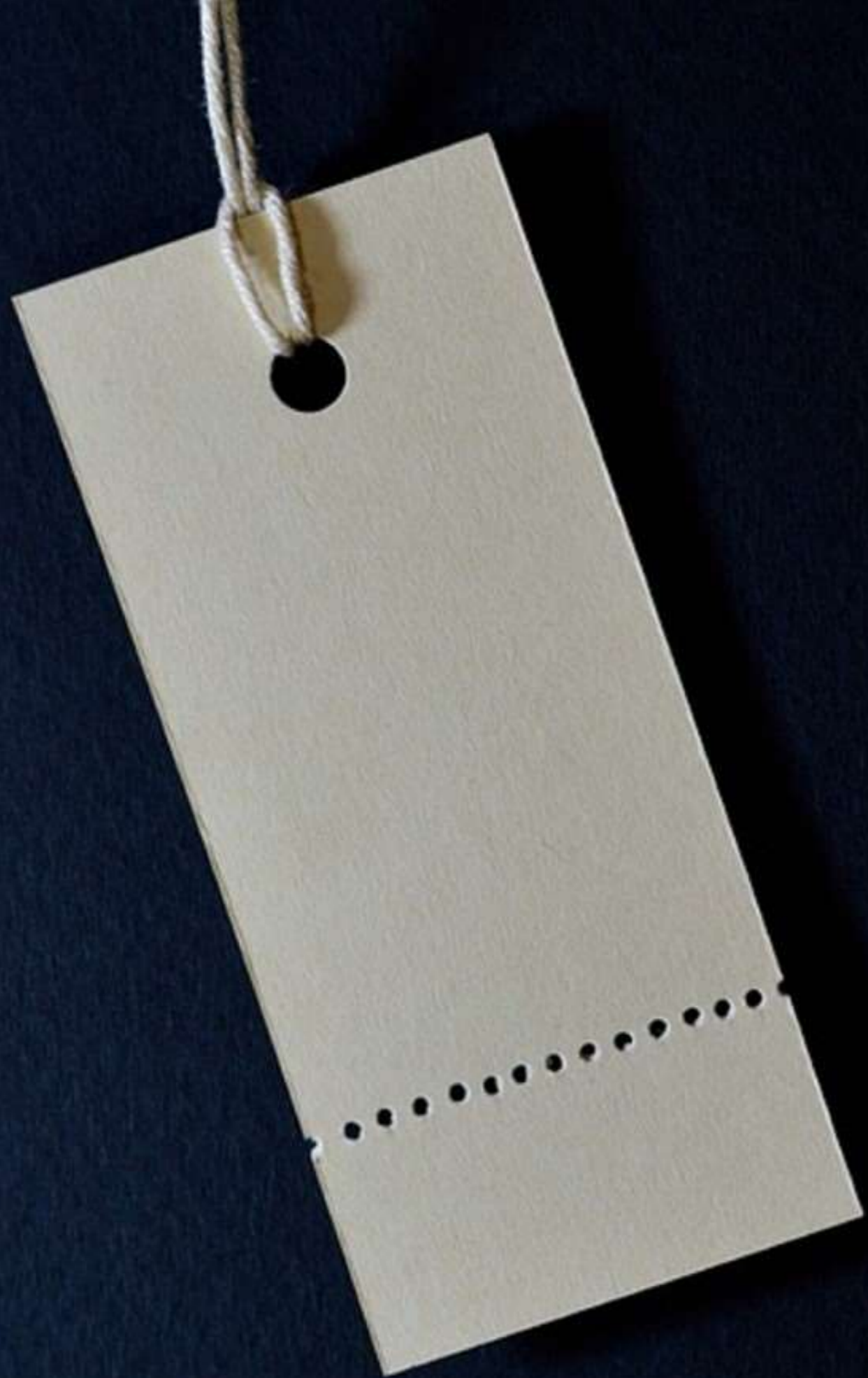




# Not for Sale



**Acts 8:1-24**





**Acts 8:1** Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death. And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. **2** Some devout men buried Stephen, and made loud lamentation over him. **3** But Saul began ravaging the church, entering house after house, and dragging off men and women, he would put them



in prison. **4** Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word. **5** Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them. **6** The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the signs which he was performing. **7** For in the case of many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out of them shouting with a loud voice; and many who had



been paralyzed and lame were healed. **8** So there was much rejoicing in that city. **9** Now there was a man named Simon, who formerly was practicing magic in the city and astonishing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great; **10** and they all, from smallest to greatest, were giving attention to him, saying, "This man is what is called the Great Power of God." **11** And they were giving him attention because he had for a long time



astonished them with his magic arts. **12** But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.

**13** Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed. **14** Now when the apostles



in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, **15** who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. **16** For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **17** Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit. **18** Now



when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, **19** saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." **20** But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! **21** You have no part or



portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. **22** Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you. **23** For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity.” **24** But Simon answered and said, “Pray to the Lord for me yourselves, so that nothing of what you have said may come upon me.”



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**Acts 8:1-24**





The gospel exceeds our  
imagination, but it might not  
meet all our expectations.





# What the Gospel Did: Reached Samaritans





# What the Gospel Did: Performed Miracles







**What could the  
Gospel do Today?**





# What the Gospel Did Not Do: Provide Automatic Maturity







# What the Gospel Did Not Do: Respond to Human Wealth







**Do I need to adjust  
my expectations?**





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**Acts 8:1-24**