Simon the Sorcerer
Acts 8:8-24

Introduction:
A. Simon’s case teaches.
   1. The power of sin. (vs. 10,11,23).
   2. The power of gospel preaching.
      a. Preached Christ. (v. 5).
      b. Preached kingdom. (v. 12).
      c. Preached word of God. (v. 14).

B. Simon’s case illustrated pardon for two classes of sinners:

Discussion:
I. Unbaptized Sinners. (v. 13).
A. In terrible condition because of:
   1. What sin is. (1 John 3:4).
      b. Law of God who loves us (Rom. 5:8).
      c. Law of God who is longsuffering to us. (2 Pet. 3:9,10).
   2. What sin does.
      a. Separates from God. (Is. 59:2).
      b. Deceives and hardens (Heb. 3:13).
      c. Spreads like cancer. (2 Tim. 2:17).
      d. Brings death. (Rom. 6:23).
      e. Robs one of heaven. (Rev. 21:27; 2 Pet. 3:14).

B. In a position to be forgiven, if:
   1. Obey terms of gospel. (Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:15,16).
   2. Do as Simon did. (Acts 8:12,13).

II. Baptized Sinners. (vs. 21-23).
A. In worse condition that other. (2 Pet. 2:20-22).
   1. Fallen from grace. (Gal. 5:4; Heb. 10:29).
   2. Causes way of truth to be blasphemed. (2 Pet. 2:2).
   3. Harder to reach than before.

B. In a position to be forgiven, if:
   1. Will be converted. (Jas. 5:19,20).
   2. Will repent and pray for forgiveness. (Acts 8:22; 2 Cor. 7:9-10).
   3. Will confess his sins rather than deny.
      a. To God through Christ. (1 John 1:9; 2:1).
      b. To any others affected by his sins. (Jas. 5:16; cf. Luke 17:3,4).

Conclusion:
A. What about your sins?
   1. Useless to deny them.
   2. Useless to brood over them.
   3. Useless to ignore them.

B. Why not get forgiveness?
   1. If unbaptized: Repent, Confess and be baptized.
   2. If baptized: Repent, confess, pray.