

Church – The Beginnings, Part 3

The Foundations – The Book of Acts

Acts 1:1-12 | 11/13/2016

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Acts 1:1-12

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus **BEGAN** both to **DO** and **TEACH**,² until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen,³ to whom He also presented Himself **ALIVE** after His suffering by many **INFALLIBLE PROOFS**, being **SEEN** by them during **FORTY** days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

⁴And being assembled together with them, He commanded them **NOT** to depart from Jerusalem, but to **WAIT** for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; ⁵for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸But you shall receive **POWER** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall **BE My WITNESSES** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

⁹Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey. (compare with Luke 24:44-49 & Matt. 28:18-20)

The Resurrection, Ascension and The Coming of the Holy Spirit:

1. The Finished Work of Jesus Christ includes the Ascension

In John chapters 14 thru 17, Jesus explains the importance of Him being in **Heaven** again (going away back to **Heaven**), so that the Holy Spirit will come (ref. John 7:37-39)

John 14:1-6, 15-18, 25-28

John 15:26

John 16:5-11, 28

John 17:4-8, 24

2. The Effects of the Coming Holy Spirit because of the Ascension of Christ, include:

- a. The **Convicting Power** of the Holy Spirit on sinners: John 16:8-11
- b. **Salvation** (as talked about last week – Titus 3:4-7) – the **New Covenant** (Ezek. 36:25-27)
- c. **Leading the Disciples into God’s Truth**, the Truth of His Holy Word - John 16:12-14;17:17

3. Christ Returning for His Church is our Hope, which:

- a. **Drives us**, in the Power of the Holy Spirit, to **proclaim the Gospel** of Christ to the Lost (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20; Luke 24:44-49 – parallel passages) – Don’t just sit/stand there...
- b. **Drives us** to be **Pure and Holy** in our relationship with God – 1 John 3:1-3; 1 Peter 1:13-16. This allows us to have **Lasting Gospel Impact for Christ** toward the lost around us.

Luke 24:44-53 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴⁴ Then He [Jesus] said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.” ⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ [the Messiah] to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission [i.e.: forgiveness] of sins should be preached in His Name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Behold, I **SEND** the **Promise of My Father upon you**; but tarry [wait] in the city of Jerusalem **UNTIL** you are endued with **POWER** from on high.”

⁵⁰ And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven [← this is the Ascension of Christ to Heaven – compare with Acts 1:9-11 & Matt. 28:18-20]. ⁵² And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³ and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.