

Understanding the Book of Acts
Acts 1:1-11 (p.1156)

Intro

I. The risen Jesus Christ has _____...

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem...v.1-4

The Book of Acts is a _____ to the Gospel of Luke; first Christ rose from the dead and gave instructions to the apostles, and then He _____ into heaven.

... it seemed good to me... to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus... (Luke 1:3)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up... v.1,2

All that Jesus did on earth was just the _____ of what He would do, and then He ascended to _____ His work.

...And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." v.9-11

Christ _____ His saving work on the cross, but He continues to serve as our Lord and to work _____ His people.

...he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (John 19:30)

After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high... (Heb. 1:3)

II. So that the Holy Spirit might give you _____ to witness.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." v.4,5

...God raised him on the third day and made him to appear... to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. (Acts 10:40,41)

If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13)

"And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. (Luke 24:49)

"I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:16)

*I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean...and a new spirit I will put within you.... And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord God."
(Ez. 36:25,26; 39:29)*

Jesus did not want them to try and witness in their own _____; we need the power of the Holy Spirit to be effective _____.

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." v.6-8

The Book of Acts is the account of the ascended Christ _____ out His Spirit at Pentecost to _____ His disciples to witness to the world.

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.... And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit....this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: "...I will pour out my Spirit"Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing....(Acts 2:1,4,16,17,33,36)

In the Book of Acts, we witness the necessity and power of _____ as the disciples learn to _____ more upon the Lord.

All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer.... And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers....Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness.... And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness. (Acts 1:14; 2:42; 4:29,31)

Christ uses _____ to send His people out into the world, and He sends _____ to preach to non-Jewish people, who receive the Holy Spirit!

*And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.... Now, those who were scattered went about preaching the word.... So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality.... While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word.
(Acts 8:1,4; 10:34,44)*

Saul is converted and is sent on a missionary _____ with Barnabas; then the Lord calls Paul into _____.

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." ... So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. (Acts 13:2,4)

And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." (Acts 16:6-9)

Paul is _____ by the Romans in Jerusalem and eventually appeals to _____, witnessing all along the way.

The following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage, for as you have testified to the facts about me in Jerusalem, so you must testify also in Rome." (Acts 23:11)

If then I am a wrongdoer and have committed anything for which I deserve to die, I do not seek to escape death. But if there is nothing to their charges against me, no one can give me up to them. I appeal to Caesar." Then Festus, when he had conferred with his council, answered, "To Caesar you have appealed; to Caesar you shall go." (Acts 25:11,12)

The Book of Acts concludes with Paul in _____ sharing the gospel _____ without any obstacles or hindrances.

And when we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him.... He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance. (Acts 28:16,30,31)

Christ is Lord and He will accomplish _____ purposes; we need to trust in Him and rely upon His Spirit for _____ and opportunity to witness.

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The Book of Acts is a sequel to the Gospel of Luke; first Christ rose from the dead and gave instructions to the apostles, and then He ascended into heaven.

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All that Jesus did on earth was just the beginning of what He would do, and then He ascended to continue His work.

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Christ finished His saving work on the cross, but He continues to serve as our Lord and to work through His people.

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