

What If?

ACTS 1:1-2:39

What caused the Church to grow in just a few short years from a handful of timid, fearful Jewish disciples huddled away in Jerusalem to a full-fledged, Gentile Church living openly in the heart of the Roman Empire?

THEME

Acts 1:8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and "you shall be witnesses to Me" in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

GEOGRAPHY

Acts traces the expansion of Christianity across the Mediterranean rim – from the Jewish capital of Jerusalem to the Gentile capital of Rome.

DIVISIONS

- In Chapters 1 to 7 *Describes the Churches outreach in Jerusalem*
- In Chapters 8 and 9 *The Gospel goes to Judea and Samaria*
- In Chapters 10 to 28 *We see it going to the end of the earth*

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY THE BOOK OF ACTS?

It is crucial we study this book; for there's never been a more successful period of church history. 30 years after the resurrection of Christ the Gospel had gone "**into all the world.**"

AUTHORSHIP:

Dr. Luke, M.D., Historian

YEAR:

Completed in 61 AD

PURPOSE:

To Document the growth of Christianity under Christ

“The Former account I made O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began to do and to teach,...” (Acts 1:8)

We know from Luke’s Gospel 1:3 that Theophilus was an
Authority in the Roman government
(most excellent)

His name means friend of God or Lover of God.

ACTS 1:1-3

“By Many Infallible, Undeniable proofs”

Jesus made sure the evidence of His resurrection was so
undeniable and so irrefutable (clear and conclusive) that none of
the disciples would ever doubt its reality

ACTS 1:4-5

Welcome to
KADESH BARNEA PARK

FOR 40 YEARS MOSES CARED FOR 2 MILLION JEWS AND HE
NEEDED HELP! And he needed God’s help—But rather than
deposit His Spirit solely on Moses, God poured out His Spirit on
70 Elders.

IN NUMBERS 11 MOSES WANTED ALL GOD’S PEOPLE TO HAVE
THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS

PREDICTED THAT GOD WOULD POUR OUT HIS SPIRIT ON ALL
HIS PEOPLE

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah

- Ezekiel
- Joel

The Old was being fulfilled in the New The Promised Spirit



BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Baptized GRK baptizo (bap-tid'-zo) *to initiate, to dip, to engulf, to immerse*

When Paul in his letters uses the word "*baptism*" he is referring to INITIATION

1 CORINTHIANS 12:13

When Luke, Jesus, and Peter use the word "baptism" they are speaking of BEING IMMERSED IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT

FIVE WAYS TO EXPERIENCE THE HOLY SPIRIT

IN ACTS 1

- "baptism"
- "reception"
- "comes upon"
- "fills"
- "poured out"

JESUS FIRST REIGNS AND RULES SPIRITUALLY IN HUMAN HEARTS AND
IN THE FUTURE HIS PHYSICAL KINGDOM WILL BE ESTABLISHED

ACTS 1:6

**PENTECOST HELPS TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S
PURPOSES**

ACTS 1:7

**You Shall receive power when the Holy
Spirit comes upon you.**

ACTS 1:8

3 ESSENTIALS FOR THE CHRISTIAN

POWER

The POWER is HIS SPIRIT

PURPOSE

Our PURPOSE is to BE WITNESSES

PLAN

The PLAN is to SPREAD OUT FROM
JERUSALEM INTO ALL THE EARTH

The word power is the Greek word; dunamis (doo'-nam-is)
meaning dynamic works, miraculous power, ability, abundant
strength, mighty work.

witnesses GRK martus (mar'-toos) martyr, to bear record. to give
testimony based upon what has been seen

**TO FULFILL SUCH A GRAND COMMISSION THE DISCIPLES
WILL NEED SUPERNATURAL HELP**

ACTS 1:8

THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES “UPON”

upon GRK epi, to come upon

BEFORE WE ARE SAVED THE SPIRIT IS “**with us**”; convicting us
of sin and drawing us to the Savior

WHEN WE BELIEVE (BORN AGAIN) THE SPIRIT COMES TO
“ **dwell**” in us.

JOHN 14

WHEN WE ARE BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT; THE SPIRIT
“**comes upon us**”. The Spirit engulfs us with His love and His
power.

**EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT DWELLING IN
THEM, BUT NOT ALL CHRISTIANS HAVE HIS POWER UPON
THEIR LIVES**

**EVERY CHRISTIAN NEEDS THE POWER OF THE HOLY
SPIRIT!**

THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

ACTS 1: 9-11a

The disciples seen Jesus, heard Jesus, learned from Jesus, BUT
they still lacked the POWER

RETURNING TO JERUSALEM

ACTS 1:12-13

From Mount Olivet to Upper Room in Jerusalem

A Sabbath Day's Journey About 2,000 cubits or 2,500 ft. or about a Half Mile.

ACTS 1:14

- 1.) Continued, Continued for 10 days for sure. To be serious toward a desire, to exercises as one, to be glued to another.
- 2.) One Accord, to have the same mind, going in same direction.
- 3.) Prayer, to Worship: to acknowledge.
- 4.) Supplications, to petition, to make requests

Notice the gathering, The eleven disciples and the godly women. among whom is Mary the mother of Jesus and his brothers -PRAYING

PETER AND THE 120 Acts 1:16-17

JUDAS THE MAN THAT BETRAYED JESUS Acts 1:18-20

SCRIPTURE FULFILLED CONCERNING JUDAS

Akel Dama (Field of Blood), a barren land.

Psalm 69:25; Psalm 109.8; Matthew 27:5,7; Acts 2

REPLACING JUDAS (THE CHURCH IS GUIDED BY THE BIBLE)
(Acts 1:21-22;23-26)

THE CHURCH MANIFESTED IN POWER

ACTS 2

COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

“When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.” (Acts 2:1)

Pentecost – GRK word for *fiftieth*....It was the 15th day or 7th Sunday AFTER PASSOVER

PENTECOST WAS THE JEWISH FEAST OF WEEKS OR HARVEST

JEWISH FEAST OF WEEKS (HARVEST) -It occurred at the end of May after the Spring Harvest. In the Temple, two sheaves of wheat were offered to God.

THIS IS FITTING SYMBOLISM

For at **PENTECOST**, God began a HARVEST OF SOULS that are called THE CHURCH AGE, which included two bundles, JEWS AND GENTILES

The Jews observe this feast as the anniversary of the giving of the Law; the two sheaves are symbolic of the Ten Commandments.

THE SAME DAY THE LAW WAS GIVEN TO ISRAEL, GOD POURED OUT HIS GRACE ON THE CHURCH.

3,000 FELL IN JUDGMENT AND 3,000 SOULS SAVED

RECEIVED THE LAW

EXODUS 32

GOD POURS OUT HIS SPIRIT

ACTS 2:2-5

WIND AND FIRE

GRK word for spirit or *pneuma* means wind.....along with the wind came fire.

OLD TESTAMENT – Moses dedicated the Tabernacle, God sent fire from Heaven to consume the sacrifice....fire also when Solomon dedicated the Temple.

NEW TESTAMENT – A NEW SPIRITUAL TEMPLE IS DEDICATED....”living stones” and “living sacrifices”.... AND FIRE FALLS FROM HEAVEN.

THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

God’s Spirit overflowed those who were waiting

God rewarded their FAITH with a FILLING OF HIS HOLY SPIRIT

THEY BEGAN TO SPEAK IN TONGUES

The gifts of tongues is not a native dialect or learned language. It may not even be a known or earthly tongue.

Tongues can be an angelic language (1 Corinthians 13)

WHAT IS THE GIFT OF TONGUES?

It is when your heart is so full of praise to God that you can’t find the words to express your love for Him so the Holy Spirit will come to your rescue.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES IS STILL AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO ASK

OLD TESTAMENT – THE TOWER OF BABEL – GOD CONFUSED THE LANGUAGES TO SCATTER THE PEOPLE (Genesis 11)

NEW TESTAMENT – UPPER ROOM (PENTECOST) – GOD BROUGHT PEOPLE TOGETHER BY BLESSING THEM WITH A SUPERNATURAL ABILITY TO SPEAK HIS PRAISE

ACTS 2:12-19

JOEL 2

REVELATION 6-19

A GREAT SERMON

ACTS 2:21-39

"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

(Acts 2:38)

**WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE CONVICTED OF
REJECTING JESUS?**

- 1. REPENT**
- 2. GET BAPTIZED**

SALVATION IS BY FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE

WATER BAPTISM

**The New Testament never portrays baptism as
ESSENTIAL, BUT AS SEQUENTIAL**