

Cross Brand
C3:16
12.3.25

Acts 1:1-11

Sources: John MacArthur
gotquestions.org

The introduction

1-3 I wrote the first narrative, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach ² until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After he had suffered, he also presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

Appearances of post resurrection Jesus:

Mary Magdalene returns to the tomb. She sees the angels, and then she sees Jesus (John 20:11-18).

Later the same day, Jesus appears to Peter (Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5).

Still on the same day, Jesus appears to Cleopas and another disciple on their way to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32).

That evening, the two disciples report the event to the Eleven in Jerusalem (Luke 24:32-35).

Jesus appears to ten disciples—Thomas is missing (Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25).

Jesus appears to all eleven disciples—Thomas included (John 20:26-31).

Jesus appears to seven disciples by the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-25).

Jesus appears to about 500 disciples in Galilee (1 Corinthians 15:6).

Jesus appears to His half-brother James (1 Corinthians 15:7).

Jesus commissions His disciples (Matthew 28:16-20).

Jesus teaches His disciples the Scriptures and promises to send the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:4-5).

I. The conversation with Jesus and His followers

4-8 4 While he was[a] with them, he commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father's promise. "Which," he said, "you have heard me speak about; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days."

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time?"

7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

A. Wait until it's "time"!

"From a purely human standpoint the apostles were in no way ready for such a task."JM

(But Thomas (called "Twin"), one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples were telling him, "We've seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "If I don't see the mark of the nails in His hands, put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will never believe." ²⁶ A week later His disciples were indoors again, and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and look at My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Don't be faithless, but believe." ²⁸ Thomas responded to Him, "My Lord and my God!" John 20:24-28

B. Wait for the spirit!

1. "Having received the message, and witnessed the manifestation of the risen Christ, the apostles may have been tempted to assume they were ready to minister in their own strength. Power had to accompany truth." JM

don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless living, but be filled by the Spirit: Ephesians 5:18

If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. Galatians 5:25

For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and we were all given one Spirit to drink. 1 Corinthians 12:13).

You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. Romans 8:9;

Don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰ for you were bought at a price. So glorify God with your body. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

2. Power translates dunamis, from which the English word "dynamite" derives.

“I pray that He may grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power in your inner being through His Spirit. Now to Him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us—” Ephesians 3:16, 20

3. **Witnesses** are those who see something and tell others.

So many Christians sealed their witness to Christ with their blood that *marturēs* (**witnesses**) came to mean “martyrs.”

“Their blood became the seed of the church. “ Tertullian

There is a sense in which believers do not even choose whether or not to be **witnesses**.

II. The departure for now

9-11 After he had said this, he was taken up as they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10** While he was going, they were gazing into heaven, and suddenly two men in white clothes stood by them. **11** They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up into heaven? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you have seen him going into heaven.”

A. Jesus rose to clouds 9

The world translated **looking** indicates a long gaze, in this case a transfixed look as if losing someone.

B. Angels appeared to help the followers to understand 10-11

Mark 13:26 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.
/14:62 “I am,” said Jesus, “and you will see **the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming with the clouds of heaven.**

Rev 1:7 **Look, he is coming with the clouds,**
and **every eye will see him,**
even those who pierced him.
And all the tribes^[a] of the earth^[b]
will mourn over him.^{[c][d]}
So it is to be. Amen.

Matt 26:64 “You have said it,” Jesus told him. “But I tell you, in the future^[a] you will see **the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.**

III. Encouragement for the church today

A. It is necessary for believers to wait at times.

Moses, Paul

- B. It is necessary to be controlled by the Holy Spirit.