

**“The Holy Spirit Promised”** Acts 1:1-5.

Series: The Church Begins. Acts” Part 1. Rev. Dr. Scott Arnold  
May 23, 2021. First Baptist Church of Los Angeles.

**Key Thought:** God’s Holy Spirit prepares people for Jesus Christ, and God’s Holy Spirit comes upon those who believe in Jesus. This Holy Spirit comes to baptize and empower believers for being the Body of Christ and fulfilling God’s Kingdom purposes.

- I. To “God Lovers”. An introduction to Acts. (1:1-2)
  - A. Written to encourage, inform and inspire believers. (1)
  - B. Jesus has ascended to Heaven. (2a)
  - C. Jesus has instructed the disciples through the Holy Spirit (2b)
- II. The Testimony of the Gospel of God’s Kingdom. (3)
  - A. The Cross: Jesus’ suffering and sacrifice prepared the way. (3a)
  - B. The Resurrection: Jesus’ testimony through His resurrection. (3b)
  - C. The Hope: Jesus’ message of the Kingdom of God (3c)
- III. The Promise of the Holy Spirit. (4-5)
  - A. Dinner with the resurrected Jesus in Jerusalem? (4a)
  - B. Call to wait training for the gift of the Holy Spirit (4b)
    - 1. Do not leave Jerusalem
    - 2. Wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit
    - 3. God has promised, and Jesus reminds them
  - C. Baptism of the Holy Spirit. A new impartation (5)
    - 1. John baptized with water
    - 2. God baptizes with the Holy Spirit

**7 Essential workings of the Holy Spirit:**

- 1. New life is given by God’s grace and truth to those who believe in Jesus Christ, baptism of believers with the Holy Spirit is God’s gift.
- 2. Jesus teaches the disciples through the Holy Spirit for life and ministry in God’s Kingdom.
- 3. God’s Holy Spirit will empower believers to accomplish God’s Kingdom purposes.

- 4. Jesus calls people to actively wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- 5. The Holy Spirit is given to those who believe and trust Jesus.
- 6. The Holy Spirit cleanses and empowers our souls.
- 7. The Holy Spirit equips believers to fulfill the purposes of God’s Kingdom.

PRAYER.

***1 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach 2 until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. 4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 1:1-5 (NIV)***

Questions:

- 1. Luke wrote a letter to the church, how would you describe Luke’s focus as he encouraged the church?
- 2. Why was important for Luke to give testimony to the life, death and resurrection, and teaching of promise regarding the Holy Spirit?
- 3. How would it be challenging for the disciples to wait in Jerusalem?
- 4. When have you needed to wait for the Holy Spirit?
- 5. In what ways have you experienced the ministry of God’s Holy Spirit? Make a list.