

## **Unstoppable Kingdom**

### **Citizens in One Accord**

Acts 1:12-26

*“If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.”*

**Acts:** The phrase “with one accord” appears at least six times in Acts because part of their power was in their unity. They had MANY disagreements, but they wrestled through them under God’s authority and came back together.

**Main Idea:** A King is Most Glorified when Citizens are Most Unified under His Reign

*“Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ‘Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.’ (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ‘For it is written in the Book of Psalms, ‘May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and ‘Let another take his office.’ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us – one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.’ And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, ‘You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry & apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.’ And they cast lots for them, & the lot fell on Matthias, & he was numbered with the eleven disciples.” **Acts 1:12-26***

#### I. **Obey in One Accord – Acts 1:12-23**

*“Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” **Acts 1:16-17 (Quoted from Psalms 69 & 109)***

*“The Lord is pleased to pour his Spirit upon believers who are living in unity.”*  
**Kent Hughes**

#### II. **Pray in One Accord – Acts 1:24-26**

*“All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers... And they prayed and said, ‘You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen.” **Acts 1:14, 24***

*“Prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge to Satan.”*  
**John Bunyan (Pilgrim’s Progress)**

*“The prayer of a righteous person has great power.” **James 5:16***

*“Whatever you ask in my name, this will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.” **John 14:13-14***

*“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.”*

*“The center of their fellowship was the risen Christ, and all of them adored and magnified him...It was a time for praying together and standing together in the Lord. As they waited and worshiped together, they were being better prepared for the work that lay before them.” **Warren Wiersbe***

#### **Sources and Further Reading Opportunities:**

- CSB Study Bible – Trevin Wax, General Editor (2021)
- *The Bible Exposition Commentary* – Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- *Word Pictures in the New Testament* – A.T. Robertson (1933)
- *The New American Commentary: Acts* – John B. Polhill (1992)
- *Acts: Bible Study Commentary* – F.F. Bruce (2017)
- *Acts for Everyone* – N.T. Wright (2008)
- *Acts: The Church Afire* – Kent Hughes (1996)
- *Acts* – K.O. Gangle (1998)
- *The Kingdom of God* – Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1992)
- *Kingdom First* – Jeff Christopherson (2015)
- *The Kingdom Agenda* – Tony Evans (1999)
- *The Grandeur and the Fall of Empires* – Brookings Institute (2016)