

Called to Witness

Acts 1:6-9

1

Main Idea: Jesus deserves worship from all creation; therefore, we witnesses for Jesus.

2

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And 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;

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⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But 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.”

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Main Idea: Jesus deserves worship from all creation; therefore, we witnesses for Jesus.

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Called to Witness

1. Jesus deserves worship (vv. 1-5).
2. The return of Christ brings judgement (vv. 6-7).
3. We witness for the Lord (v. 8).

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1. Jesus deserves our worship (vv. 1-5).

"In [Luke] I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ² until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³ 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. ⁴ 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; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'"

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Jesus deserves worship (vv. 1-5).

- i. Because of what he did and taught (v. 1).
- ii. Because Jesus suffered for us (v. 3).
- iii. Because Jesus was raised from the dead (v. 2; Phil 2:5-11).
- iv. Because he gave us the Holy Spirit (vv. 2; 4-5).

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Worship and missions go together.

- i. "Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. **Worship is.** Missions exists because worship doesn't." (Piper)
- ii. Worship is man's response to **God's glory**. We worship because of who he is and what he's done.
- iii. The glory of God, seen at the **cross**, is tied to the **salvation** of the nations (John 12:28-32).
- iv. So, we witness about Jesus.

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2. The return of Christ brings judgement (6-7).

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority."

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Believers enter the Kingdom of God.

- i. Permanent place (Heb. 11:9-10, 13:14).
- ii. Perfect place (Rev 21:24, 26).
- iii. New place (Rev. 21:2).
- iv. Good place (Rev. 21:24, 26).
- v. Glorious place (Rev 21:21).
- vi. A place of service (Rev. 22:3).
- vii. A place of safety (a walled city, Rev. 21:12).

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All others enter perdition.

- i. Fire (Mt 13:42,50).
- ii. Darkness (Mt 22:13).
- iii. Painful (Mt 24:52).
- iv. Eternal (Mk 9:47).
- v. Gehenna (Mt 5:22, 29f; Mk 9:43f; Lk 12:5; Jas 3:6).

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Because judgment awaits:

- i. God wants to save people (2Pt 3:8-10).
- ii. We live like it could happen at any time (v. 7).
- iii. Until he returns, we witness.

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3. We witness for the Lord (v. 8).

⁸ 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.”

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We are witnesses (v. 8).

- i. Every believer is included here (cf. Mt 28:19-20).
- ii. The Spirit is the driving force for witnessing (v. 8a; Joh 15:26-27).
- iii. Witnessing is a command, not a calling (v. 8b).
- iv. We witness to everyone (v. 8c).

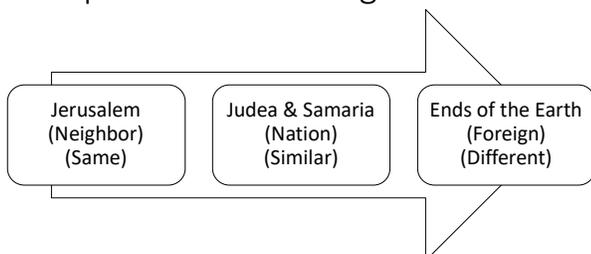
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God’s plan for witnessing.

- i. Jerusalem (Acts 1:1-7:60).
- ii. Judea & Samaria (Acts 8:1-11:18).
- iii. Ends of the Earth (Acts 11:19-28:31; Rev 7:9-10).
- iv. The modern church (Acts 29).

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God’s plan for witnessing.



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Until all people everywhere **worship**,
we **witness** all people everywhere.

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