

Christians on Campus
Acts Bible Study
Summer 2020

**The Continuation of the Lord's Ministry through the Disciples according to Their Commission
for the Development of the Kingdom of God**

- I. The book of Acts shows us the propagation of the resurrected Christ in His ascension, by the Spirit, through the disciples, for the producing of the churches, the kingdom of God.
- II. The kingdom of God is the main subject of the apostles' preaching in Acts (8:12; 14:22; 19:8; 20:25; 28:23, 31); this is indicated by the fact that the resurrected Christ, in His appearing to the apostles through a period of forty days, spoke to them concerning the kingdom of God (1:3).

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

Acts 28:30-31

³⁰And he remained two whole years in his own rented dwelling and welcomed all those who came to him, ³¹proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching the things concerning the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness, unhindered.

As you read through Acts, underline instances you see of 1) prayer, 2) the Spirit, and 3) the Word.

Acts 1:1-14

¹The former account I have made, O Theophilus, concerning all the things that Jesus began both to do and to teach, ²until the day on which He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He chose; ³to whom also He presented Himself alive after His suffering by many irrefutable proofs, appearing to them through a period of forty days and speaking the things concerning the kingdom of God.

⁴And as He met together with them, He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, You heard from Me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days from now. ⁶So the ones who came together asked Him, saying, Lord, are You at this time restoring the kingdom to Israel? ⁷But He said to them, It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has set by His own authority. ⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

⁹And when He had said these things, while they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him away from their sight. ¹⁰And while they were looking intently into heaven as He went, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them, ¹¹who also said, Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you beheld Him going into heaven.

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they entered, they went up to the upper room where they were residing, 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 brother of James. ¹⁴These all continued steadfastly with one accord in prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

Acts 2:1-21

¹And as the day of Pentecost was being fulfilled, they were all together in the same place. ²And suddenly there was a sound out of heaven, as of a rushing violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which were distributed; and it sat on each one of them; ⁴and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, even as the Spirit gave to them to speak forth.

⁵Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. ⁶And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and was confounded because each one heard them speaking in his own dialect. ⁷And they were amazed and marveled, saying, Behold, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And how is it that we each hear them in our own dialect in which we were born? ⁹Parthians and Medes and Elamites and those dwelling in Mesopotamia, both in Judea and Cappadocia, in Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰both in Phrygia and Pamphylia, in Egypt and the parts of Libya around Cyrene, and the sojourning of Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speaking in our tongues the magnificent works of God? ¹²And they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, What does this mean? ¹³But others jeered and said, They are full of new wine!

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and spoke forth to them: Men of Judea, and all who are dwelling in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. ¹⁵For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is the third hour of the day; ¹⁶but this is what is spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷And it shall be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream things in dreams; ¹⁸and indeed upon My slaves, both men and women, I will pour out of My Spirit in those days, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show wonders in heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and vapor of smoke. ²⁰The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord comes. ²¹And it shall be that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Questions for Fellowship:

1. Memorize Roman Numeral One and recite it to someone.
2. How can we say Acts is the logical continuation of the Gospels?
3. In what ways are the ministry of the Lord Jesus in the Gospels the same as the ministry of the apostles in Acts? In what ways are they different?
4. How can we be those who are the continuation of the Lord Jesus on the earth today?