

# THE FAITH OF THE FIRST CHRISTIANS-----Acts 1

## They Believed in the Risen Christ (Acts 1:1–11)

A **better** name for the Book of Acts would be **ACTS OF THE \_\_\_\_\_!**

*In my first book ....(1)* Luke is writing a \_\_\_\_\_ volume set (Luke 1:3). Acts 1 serves as a bridge.

*Jesus began to do and to reach until.....(2)* What Jesus began in the Gospels continues today.  
The work is still ongoing until the second "It is finished!"

*During the 40 days.... (3)* From Passover to Pentecost was \_\_\_\_\_ days. see Luke 24:26

*Giving His chosen apostles further instructions.... (3)* That He was actually \_\_\_\_\_, and talked about the \_\_\_\_\_.

and to wait in \_\_\_\_\_. What else but the resurrection could have made such drastic changes in these men's lives who had "forsook Him and fled" earlier?

**1. The Reality of His Resurrection (3a).** In the early preaching of Acts more emphasis is given to the \_\_\_\_\_ than to the Crucifixion. Why would that be? Is the Cross not that important?

**2. The Coming of His Kingdom (3b)** *Kept asking Him ....free Israel and restore our kingdom? (6)*

What does this show about the disciples understanding of the Kingdom of God?

What had Jesus taught them about the Kingdom (Rule, Reign) of God? (Matt. 6:33, John 18:36)

How does Paul help clarify the current location of God's Kingdom in Romans 14:17?

Since Jesus did not know the time of the Restored Kingdom (7) does that mean He is not all-knowing and maybe He is not God? (Philippians 2:5ff)

**3. The Power of His Holy Spirit (4–8).**

*John baptized with water ...but ...in a few days... you baptized with the Holy Spirit (5)*

John the Baptist alluded to this in Matthew 3:11.

As did Jesus in John 14:16-18, 26;16:7-15. *I told you before*

What is "baptism" of/with the Holy Spirit? I Corinthians 6:19, 20

#### 4. The Plan of the His Holy Spirit

*You will receive power....(8a)*

*You will be witnesses... (8b)* “witness” is a key word in Acts (29x). What does it mean?

*Jerusalem (chs.1-7).....Judea and Samaria (chs.8-9).....ends of the earth (chs. 10-28) (8c)*

#### 5. The Assurance of His Coming Again (9-11)

*He was taken up in a cloud...(9)*

*two men in white robes (10) messengers? angels?*

What is He doing now? Hebrews 4:14-16 | John 1:9-2:2

*return from heaven in the **same way** you saw Him go (11) what event is this?*

#### **They Believed in Each Other** (Acts 1:12–14)

*the apostles returned to Jerusalem (12) A strong evidence of obedience*

*upper room (13) Probably same place they had the \_\_\_\_\_*

Look at the list of attendees in vs 14? anyone interesting?

Could there have been conflicts? notice the terms together, united, etc.

#### **They Believed in Prayer** (Acts 1:15, 24–25)

*they all met together and were constantly united in prayer* Prayer is a key element in ACTS!

Unity is prerequisite for \_\_\_\_\_ prayers!

*there was about 120....* That's about the right size \_\_\_\_\_ for one pastor!

#### **They Believed in God's Leading** (Acts 1:16–23)

Was Peter being too bossy by taking over? (Matthew 16:19) He was first among \_\_\_\_\_!

What was the process for discerning God's Will as seen in 16-23?

Why was Judas replaced?

How did he die? Matthew 27:4-5 or Acts 1:18

What were the requirements laid out for an apostle?

Why did they need 12?

Was the Apostle Paul supposed to be the 12<sup>th</sup>?

# POWER FROM HEAVEN!---Acts 2

## The Church \_\_\_\_\_ for the Spirit (Acts 2:1)

*We will not change the world by criticism of it or conformity to it but by combustion within it of lives ignited by the Holy Spirit—Vance Havner*

When you are waiting on the Lord and not sure what to do the best to do is \_\_\_\_\_!

We must not assume there is a magical deal to \_\_\_\_\_ of prayer.  
The prayer did not bring Pentecost. Furthermore, we do not need another Pentecost.

What does it take to build a church? take DLBC for instance.....

## The Church \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord (Acts 2:2–13)

**The Spirit Came (2–3)** What is the Main function of the Holy Spirit? (John 16:8-14)  
*looked like* Luke describes something unusual as best as he can.

Passover	pictures the crucifixion of the Lamb
Feast of First Fruits (just after Passover)	pictures the Resurrection (I Corinthians 15:20)
Pentecost (50 days after Feast of FF)	pictures the formation of the Church (Holy Spirit)

The Feast of FF was the day after the Passover Sabbath (first day of the week when Jesus rose from the dead). Pentecost was 50 days later and would be 7- 7's plus 1 and would again be on the first day of the week **Sunday!**

How was the function of the Holy Spirit different in the Old Testament as compared to today?

### The Spirit Baptized (1:5)

It is important to note that historically, the baptism of the Spirit took place in two stages: the Jewish believers were baptized at Pentecost (Acts 2) and the Gentiles were baptized and added to the body in the home of Cornelius (Acts 10:44–48; 11:15–17; Eph. 2:11–22).

The “keys of the kingdom” were used in the first 10 chapters of Acts. (chs 2, 8 10)  
What were the keys?

### The Spirit Filled (4)

The baptism of the Spirit means that I belong to His body; the fullness of the Spirit means that my body belongs to Him. The baptism is final; the fullness is repeated as we trust God for new power to witness. The baptism involves all other believers, for it makes us one in the body of Christ (Eph. 4:1–6); while the fullness is personal and individual. **These are \_\_\_\_\_ experiences and they must not be confused.**

“*Baptidzo*” means to physically “submerge” or symbolically to “identify with.”  
The context will easily help distinguish which usage is meant.

## The Spirit Spoke (5–13)

*own native languages* (6, 8) This was not some unknown gibberish and is to be distinguished from “tongues” of the carnal Corinthian church which was “unknown” and needed an \_\_\_\_\_ . The Holy Spirit does not seem to be in the entertainment or “show off” business. The purpose here was clearly to \_\_\_\_\_ in the native languages of the people attending Pentecost from all over the world. Campbell Morgan reminds us that our tongues can be set of fire from either heaven or hell (James 3:5-6).

What accusation did mockers accuse these believers of? Ephesians 5:18?

Could this be considered a reversal of the \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Could the tongues also be an indication that the Gospel was for the \_\_\_\_\_ !

Was this a fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32?

I thought we were living in the *last days*?

## The Church Witnessing to the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:14–41)

### Peter’s Message

**He explained what happened:** the Spirit had come (14–21)

**He explained how it happened:** Jesus was alive (22–35) Notice the emphasis on the Resurrection.

His first proof was the \_\_\_\_\_ (22–24).

Peter’s second proof was the prophecy of David (vv. 25–31).

The third proof was the \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 33).

Peter’s fourth proof was the presence of the Holy Spirit (v33–35)

Peter’s conclusion: Jesus is your Messiah, but \_\_\_\_\_ ! (see Acts 2:23)

**He explained why it happened:** \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 36–41)

*said to him and the other apostles* This was not the Peter show!

*repent....and be baptized in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins....* (37)

this does NOT teach baptismal regeneration eis [for] can mean “for” or “because of”

>Peter said nothing about baptism in his other sermons.

>Cornelius and family received the Holy Spirit before they were baptized (ch. 10)

>No one in the Old Testament was saved cuz none of them were baptized

## The Church Walking in the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 2:42–47)

*Temple each day, met in homes--* The Church continued to meet in the Temple area and in homes.

There were 3000 new converts to be discipled!

“Fellowship” indicated “having in common.”

What were some important practices of this early church?

## THE POWER OF HIS NAME--Acts 3:1–4:4

There are **three stages** in this event, & **each stage reveals something wonderful about Jesus Christ.**

The emphasis in Acts 3 and 4 is on the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 3:6, 16; 4:7, 10, 12, 17–18, 30).

A name, of course, implies much more than identification; it carries with it authority, reputation, and power. When somebody says, “You can use my name!” you sincerely hope the name is worth using.

His name Philippians 2:9ff Matthew 28:18

### Amazement: Jesus the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 3:1–10)

*Peter and John.... fishing buddies stuck together* (Luke 5:10, 22:8, John 20:3-4)

*Temple...3:00 pm prayer* there is still a strong connection to the Temple and prayer times

Definitely John 14:12 in action. *..will do the same works I have done, and even greater works*

*“in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk! ..... And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness?” Quick to brag on JESUS!*

What would be a purpose of allowing the disciples now to do these miraculous things?

What indications that the man was healed physically and Spiritually (3:11; 4:14)?

How is this lame man a picture of salvation?

### Indictment: Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 3:11–16)

Peter’s message is very \_\_\_\_\_ in scope (Romans 1:16).

Acts 1-10 actually provides a transition from Jewish only focus to more of all the world!

### Encouragement: Jesus, \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 3:17–4:4)

What did Peter tell them to do?

First of all, they had to \_\_\_\_\_.

Second, they had to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Note: Baptism is NOT included this time in his recommended response actions needed thus showing it is not necessary FOR salvation but should be a result OF salvation.**

**As you review this section of Acts, you cannot help but be impressed with some practical truths that should encourage all of us in our witnessing for Christ**

1. God is long-suffering with lost sinners.
2. True witness involves the “bad news” of sin and guilt as well as the “good news” of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
3. The way to reach the masses is by helping the individual sinner.
4. The best defense of the truth of the Christian faith is a changed life.
5. Whenever God blesses, Satan shows up to oppose the work and silence the witness; and often he uses religious people to do his work.
6. God has promised to bless and use His Word, so let's be faithful to witness.
7. The name of Jesus Christ still has power!

Yes, the name of Jesus Christ still has authority and power.

Let's go forth in His name and conquer!

**Answers:**

Holy Spirit, 2, 50, Alive, Kingdom, Jerusalem, Resurrection,  
Lords Supper, Group, Church, Equals, Waiting, Prayer, 10 Days, Worshipping,  
Two Distinct, Interpreter, Praise God, Tower of Babel, Whole World, Lost,  
Person of Jesus Christ, Witness of the Believers, You crucified Him,  
To Save Sinners, Spirit, Healer, Son of God, Jewish, The Savior,  
Repent of Their Sins, Be Converted