**The Book of Acts – Chapter 1**

**The final words to the apostles from the resurrected Lord Jesus – 1:1 -5**

The Lord Jesus showed himself alive from the dead to the disciples with many proofs – 1:5

1. Eyewitness proofs
2. Dramatic proofs from a man risen from the dead
3. Encouraging proofs because Jesus is alive from the dead

The life of Jesus released a new boldness in the believer’s 4:13,31

The Lord Jesus spend 40 days teaching and speaking of the things of the kingdom of God

The kingdom of God is the reign and rule of the Lord Jesus Christ in the gospel

Mark 1:14 -15 – Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand, repent & believe in the gospel

1. Acts 8:12 – Philip preached the kingdom of God & salvation in Jesus Christ
2. Acts 19:8 – Paul in Ephesus preached the kingdom of God
3. Acts 28:23, 31 – Paul in his final days in Rome preached & taught the kingdom of God

**The promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit for believers – 1:5 – 8**

The Lord Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would come as was promised – 1:4-5 John 16:5 -15

1. The Holy Spirit comes on every believer at the time of conversion – 1Cor. 12:13
2. The Holy Spirit convicts of sin – John 16:8
3. The Holy Spirit convinces of the saviorhood of Christ – John 16:13
4. The Holy Spirit converts the seeking soul – Tit. 3:5
5. The Holy Spirit dwells within the soul of a believer – John 14:17
6. The Holy Spirit renews the believer
7. The Holy Spirit teaches the believer the things of God – 1 Cor. 2
8. The Holy Spirit pours out the love of God on believers – Rom 5:5
9. The Holy Spirit sets us free from the law of sin – Rom 8:2
10. The Holy Spirit gives life to the believer’s bodies – Rom 8:11
11. The Holy Spirit leads the believer – Rom 8:14
12. The Holy Spirit adopts the believer into the family of God – Rom 8:15
13. The Holy Spirit confirms the believer’s place in the family of god – Rom 8: 16
14. The Holy Spirit helps with the believer’s weaknesses – Rom 8:26
15. The Holy Spirit knows the will of God – Rom 8:27

The Lord Jesus final promise was the power of the Holy Spirit to be witnesses for Him to all the earth – 1:8

1. This is the assignment of the believer for all times – witnesses

Witness = tell what you have seen or heard – the word appears 29 times in Acts

1. The Holy Spirit is the guide & teacher for implementing the great commission – Acts 4:8, 13:2
2. Three regions for the advance of the great commission by Holy Spirit
3. Beginning at Jerusalem – Acts 2
4. Judea & Samaria – Acts 8:14-17, 10:44
5. Gentiles – Acts 19

**The ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ – 1:9 – 11**

The Lord Jesus was taken up bodily out of their sight – 1:9

Acts 2:33 – therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He have poured forth this which you both see and hear.

Acts 7:56 – behold I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God

The four steps of exaltation of the Lord Jesus Christ

1. Resurrection
2. Ascension – Enthronement
3. Exaltation – High Priesthood
4. Judgment – King of Kings

Scriptures regarding the Lord’s ascension

1. Heb. 1:3 – When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on High
2. Heb. 2:9 – because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor(10:11-12)
3. Heb. 3:1 – therefore holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession
4. Heb. 4:14 – therefore since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession…therefore let us draw

near with all confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need

1. Eph. 4:10 – He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things
2. Eph. 1:19 -21 – and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right and in the heavenly places far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but the age to come
3. 1 John 2:1 – My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous, and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins and not for our only but also for those of the whole world

**Meditations on Christ’s exaltation**

1. If Christ had not ascended, He could not intercede for us in heaven – 1 John 2:1
2. If Christ had not ascended, you could not enter heaven when you die – John 14:2
3. If Christ had not ascended, He could not be enthroned in glorious authority – Luke 24:25
4. If Christ had not ascended, He could not have assured God’s satisfaction with sin’s debt being paid – John 16:9-10
5. If Christ had not ascended, we could not enjoy the blessings of the Spirit – John 16:7
6. If Christ had not ascended, we would not enjoy full fellowship with God – John 14: 19 – 21

Christian you ascended with Him virtually, when He ascended, you shall ascend to Him personally at the resurrection! Eph. 2:6

Oh that you would ascend to him in acts of faith, love and daily desires! The ancient church would say: “up with your hearts” at the Lord’s supper. So “up with your hearts!” followers of Jesus! Phil 3:20