

New Mount Moriah AMEC

Bible- Study, 21 Jan 2025

Acts 1:1-11 (NKJV)

Introduction: Tonight, we begin unpacking the book of Acts, an account of the continuation of Jesus's work through the Holy Spirit in the early church. Luke is the author of the book of Acts and the gospel that bears his name. His name is Greek, and Paul seems to link him to Gentiles rather than the Jews (*Colossian 4:10-14*). The book of Acts is written to Theophilus, the same recipient of the Gospel of Luke.

Lesson outline:

- Vs. 1-2 The Works of Jesus
- Vs. 3 He Lives
- Vs. 4-5 The Promise of the Holy Spirit
- Vs. 6-7 The Sovereignty of God
- Vs. 8 The Empowering of The Holy Spirit
- Vs. 9-11 This Same Jesus

Lesson Review:

Vs. 1-2 **The Works of Jesus:** The former treaties refer back to the gospel of Luke. It is believed Theophilus was a high-ranking Roman officer because the title *most excellent* is also used for Felix and Festus, two high-ranking Roman officials. Despite a person's position in life, we must **not** hesitate to share the gospel of Jesus Christ when given the opportunity.

Critical Thinking: How would you share the gospel of Jesus Christ with someone desiring to know more about Him? What information would you provide to someone who accepts Him as their Lord and Savior?

- Please note that Jesus was a teacher of God's Word and a doer of God's Word. He did so through the guidance of the Holy Spirit until He ascended to Heaven (ministry does not stop at 75, but when God closes our eyes for the final time). If Jesus ministered through the Holy Spirit, we must do the same.

Additional Insight: John 9:4

Ecclesiastes 9:10

Vs.3 **He Lives: Passion** (*pathein*) means suffering, which speaks to Jesus's crucifixion. Jesus suffered once for our sins to bring us to God (the just suffered for the unjust)! There are ten documented appearances of Jesus after His resurrection, but it is believed there were many more. **Infallible** proof means convincing, sure signs, and ways. The Forty Days were the time of Jesus's resurrection and ascension into Heaven.

Additional Insight: 1 Corinthians 15:6-8

John 21:1-14

- The Kingdom of God in our text speaks of "The sphere of salvation, the gracious domain of divine rule over believer's hearts." John McArthur
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Vs. 4-5 **The Promise of The Holy Spirit:** In your opinion, why did Jesus command His disciples not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for the promise of the Father? In what book of the Bible is the promise of the Father recorded? What role does/should the promise of the Father have in our lives?

Food for Thought: How do we discern the voice of the Holy Spirit from our voice and humanities?

Additional Insight: Matthew 3:11

John 14:16-17

Vs. 6-8 **The Sovereignty of God:** Jesus did not deny that the Kingdom of Isreal would be restored but stated, “The Father has put in His own authority.” What impact could waiting for equality and justice have on us? How could our being focused on who is in the White House impact our commission to go?

Additional Insight: Ezekiel 36: 16-28

Joel 2:28-29

My thoughts: Regardless of when God chose to restore the Kingdom of Isreal, the disciple’s charge was to witness in all the earth for the Kingdom of God. It is the Holy Spirit who empowers (equips) us to be a witness of God (a witness is someone who tells the truth about God). Please note that Jesus’s last words commanded the disciples to witness to all the world!

Vs. 9-11: **This Same Jesus:** The two angles prophesied that Jesus (this same Jesus) would return in like manner. How do you distinguish Jesus from another Jesus, and what is the manner of His return? Is it possible for the cloud to represent a visible reminder that God’s glory was present?

Additional Insight: Matthew 26:64

John 14:2-3