

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2019

MORNING MESSAGE

“The Foundation for Evangelism”

Acts 1:1-11

- I. THE PASSION OF THE SON (vv.1-3)
  - A. Luke and Acts were written by the same person: Acts is a sequel to Luke
    1. “The former treatise” is a reference to the Gospel of Luke
  - B. Luke and Acts were written to the same person: Theophilus
    1. Luke 1:3, “It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus”
    2. Theophilus means “friend of God” or “lover of God”
  - C. The message of “the former treatise” was Jesus
    1. Jesus came (v.1) – “all that Jesus began to do and teach”
    2. Jesus died (v.3b) – “after his passion”
    3. Jesus arose (v.3a) – “to whom he showed himself alive...by many infallible proofs”
    4. Jesus ascended (v.2a) – “until the day in which he was taken up”
- II. THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER (vv.4-5)
  - A. The promise of the Father was the coming of the Holy Spirit
    1. Jesus said the Father promised to send the Holy Spirit
      - a. John 14:16, “I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever”
      - b. “Another” means “one of the same kind”
      - c. “Comforter” translates the Greek word “paraclete” which means “one called alongside”
  - B. A few words about the Holy Spirit baptism
    1. “The Holy Spirit” is the third person of the Godhead
    2. “Baptize” means to bury or put under
    3. To be baptized by the Holy Spirit is to be immersed or placed into the body of Christ, the church
- III. THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT (vv.6-8)
  - A. The Holy Spirit will empower you to be a witness
    1. “Witnesses” translates the Greek word “martures” that gives us the English word “martyr”
      - a. A martyr is someone who dies for what he believes in
    2. “Power” translates the Greek word “dunamis” that gives us the English word “dynamite”
      - a. It means controlled power
  - B. Here is the assignment to the church
    1. Be witnesses in Jerusalem; that’s your own city
    2. Be witnesses in Judea; that’s your own country
    3. Be witnesses in Samaria; that’s your own continent
    4. Be witnesses to the uttermost part of the world; that’s your own celestial body
- IV. THE PROCLAMATION OF THE ANGELS (vv.9-11)
  - A. Luke describes the ascension (vv.9-10)
    1. This is how he closed his gospel
      - a. Luke 24:50-51, “And he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them and carried up into heaven”
  - B. Luke records the announcement (v.11)
    1. “Gazing” means looking as those longing for someone you are losing
    2. “This same Jesus...shall so come in like manner”
      - a. That is the announcement that set the early church on fire