

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2019

MESSAGE

“The Upper Room Prayer Meeting”

Acts 1:12-26

INTRODUCTION

Warren Wiersbe, “Prayer is both the thermometer and the thermostat of the local church”

- I. THE PLACE OF THE UPPER ROOM PRAYER MEETING (vv.12-13a)
 - A. The loyalty (v.12a)
 - a. Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem to be baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-8)
 - B. The location (v.12b)
 - a. “A sabbath day’s journey” was the maximum distance a Jew could walk on the Sabbath day according to the rabbinic law; about 2,000 cubits
 - C. The largeness (v.13a)
 - a. The upper room was large enough to accommodate 120 people (v.15)
- II. THE PEOPLE OF THE UPPER ROOM PRAYER MEETING (vv.13b-14)
 - A. Who was in the upper room
 1. The eleven apostles were there (v.13b)
 2. The women were there (v.14b)
 3. The brethren were there (v.14c)
 - a. Mark 6:3, “Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, Joses, and of Juda, and Simon”
 - B. What they were doing in the upper room (v.14a)
 1. They were persistent – “These all continued”
 2. They were principled – “with one accord”
 - a. “One accord” is found six times in Acts (1:14; 2:1,46; 4:24; 5:12; 15:25)
 3. They were praying – “in prayer and supplication”
 - a. “Prayer” literally means “a pouring out”
- III. THE PURPOSE OF THE UPPER ROOM PRAYER MEETING (vv.15-20)
 - A. These verses record the first business meeting of the church
 1. The moderator was Peter (v.15)
 2. The motive was the fulfillment of scripture (vv.16a, 20)
 - a. Peter had read Psalm 55:12-15
 - b. Peter had read Psalm 69:25
 - c. Peter had read Psalm 109:8
 3. The mandate was to replace Judas Iscariot (vv.16b-19)
- IV. THE POWER OF THE UPPER ROOM PRAYER MEETING (vv.21-26)
 - A. It was now time to elect someone to take the place of Judas Iscariot
 1. The requirements to be elected (vv.21-22)
 - a. He had to be a man
 - b. He had to have walked with Jesus from His baptism to His ascension
 - c. He had to be an eye witness of the resurrected Christ
 2. The recruits to be elected (v.23)

- a. There were two candidates: Justus and Matthias
- 3. The result of the election (vv.24-26)
 - a. The lot fell on Matthias