

JESUS ' LAST APPEARANCE TO THE DISCIPLES

Acts 1:1 -11

The book of Acts is a continuation of the narrative begun in the four Gospels. It begins with some of the same events mentioned at the end of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. See now what these events are, and relate them to your previous studies in the Gospels:

A. The Prologue of the Book of Acts: Read Acts 1:1-5

1. To whom was the book of Acts written? Acts 1:1a and *THINK!*

2. This name means "lover of God." What does this show you about this person?

3. What other book had also been written to this person? Luke 1:3c and *THINK!*

4. What do you learn about this person from the two words preceding his name in Luke 1:3c? (See Acts 23:26, 24:3, 26:25 and *THINK!*)

5. What events had been included in the author's first *treatise*? (systematic narrative in writing)? Acts 1:1

6. Where did that narrative end? Acts 1:2a

7. List the events which the author mentions had taken place before this time:
 - a. 1:2b _____
 - b. 1:3a _____
 - c. 1:3b _____
 - d. 1:3c _____
 - e. 1:4a _____
 - f. 1:4b _____
 - g. 1:4c _____
8. What prediction had Jesus made before the day He was taken up? Acts 1:5b

9. If the Gospels tell what Jesus *began* to do and teach, what would you think the book of Acts would tell?

10. Would Jesus do this in person?_____ Through whom might He do it? (*THINK!*)

11. In your future studies, discover where these people would get the power for this task. Copy here when you have found the answer:

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B. Jesus' Appearance to the Apostles: Read Acts 1:6-11

1. What question did the disciples ask Jesus when they were gathered together with Him?
Acts 1:6

2. What was Jesus' answer to them? Acts 1:7

3. But what did He tell them would happen, and when? Acts 1:8a, b

4. What would they then be? Acts 1:8c

5. In what four places would this be true? Acts 1:8d, g

6. After Jesus had said these things, what two things happened while they watched? Acts 1:9

7. What did the disciples do as Jesus went up? Acts 1:10a

8. Then what most unusual thing happened? Acts 1:10b

9. What question did these men ask the disciples? Acts 1:11a, b

10. What promise did they make concerning Jesus? Acts 1:11c, d

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Was Jesus' statement about being witnesses only a prediction? Or was it also a command? Did it apply only to the apostles? Or to other Christians too? How?

2. What should I be primarily concerned about: The time of future events, or witnessing for Jesus? Do I *want* to do this? What will be the results if I do? If I do not? Is it easy to witness for Jesus? What are some of the hindrances? Is it worthwhile to overcome these hindrances? How can I witness *now*? In the future?

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Notice that the book of Acts is a continuation of the narrative begun in the book of Luke. It was written by the same writer, Luke, to the same person, Theophilus (Acts 1:1;, Luke 1:3b), who was

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possible a Roman official, and probably a Christian. While the gospels tell what Jesus *began* to do and teach (Acts 1:1), the book of Acts tells what Jesus *continued* to do and teach--no longer in person--but through the apostles, as they were empowered by the Holy Spirit. Read about these events below:

THE PROMISE AND COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 1 and 2

A. Jesus' Last Command and Promise: Read Acts 1:1-26

1. What one thing had Jesus said He wanted His disciples to do after He returned to heaven?
Acts 1:8b

2. In what four places were they supposed to do this? Acts 1:8c

3. For what must they wait before they could begin this work? Acts 1:4, 5

4. What one thing would this give them for their work? Acts 1:8a

5. About how many were in the group waiting for the fulfillment of this promise?
Acts 1:15

6. What did they decide to do as they met continually in prayer together? Acts 1:16, 20-22

B. Jesus' Promise Fulfilled: Read Acts 2:1-13, 37-47

1. Where were the disciples when the day of Pentecost (the fiftieth day after the second day of the Passover) was fully come? Acts 2:1

2. What was their heart attitude at this time? Acts 2:1

3. What sound did they suddenly hear? Acts 2:2

4. What sight did they see? Acts 2:3

5. What happened in connection with these outward signs? Acts 2:4a

6. What was one of the first results of the disciples' receiving the Holy Spirit? Acts 2:4b

7. For what very practical reason was this ability given to them at this time?
Acts 2:5-11a

8. About what did the disciples speak, when they spoke in other languages? Acts 2:11b

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9. How did the multitudes (Acts 2:6a) react when they heard the disciples?

a. Acts 2:12 _____

b. Acts 2:13 _____

10. What did Peter begin to do in answer to their words? Acts 2:14

11. About whom did he speak? Acts 2:22

12. Who did he say Jesus was? Acts 2:36

13. How did the people feel when they heard this? Acts 2:37

14. What did Peter tell the people they must do? Acts 2:38

15. How many of the people did this? Acts 2:41

16. What else was done by the apostles in the days which followed? Acts 2:43b

17. What was the result of this? Acts 2:47b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. What was the *main* purpose for the Holy Spirit's coming? (See Acts 1:8a)

2. What do I expect the Holy Spirit to enable me to do today?

INTRODUCTION TO SAUL'S LIFE

Acts 9:1 - 31

The martyrdom of Stephen and the persecution which followed brought about the fulfillment of the second part of Jesus' prediction in Acts 1:8, that His disciples would be witnesses for Him in all Judea and in Samaria. Now see what followed this:

A. Early Glimpses of Saul: Read Acts 7:54-8:3, 9:1, 2

1. What was Saul doing when he is first mentioned in the Bible?

a. Acts 7:58b _____

b. Acts 8:1a _____

2. What did Saul begin to do immediately after this? Acts 8:3

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3. What was Saul still doing even after many of the Christians had been imprisoned and scattered to other places? Acts 9:1a

4. Because of this attitude, where did he plan to go? Acts 9:2a

5. Locate this place on a map. What did he have permission to do there?
Acts 9:2a

B. Saul's Experience on His Trip to Damascus: Read Acts 9:3-19

1. As Saul journeyed, what sight did he see? Acts 9:3

2. As he fell to the earth, what sound did he hear? Acts 9:4

3. Did he know immediately who was speaking to him? Acts 9:5a

4. How do you think he felt when he heard that it was Jesus who was speaking to him? Acts 9:4

5. What did he say? (See Acts 22: 10)

5. Do you think Saul was really willing to do what Jesus wanted him to do?
Acts 9:6c, 8b

8. What effect did this experience have on Saul? Acts 9:8, 9

9. Who was told to go and help Saul? Acts 9:10-12

9. What two things did he do for Saul? Acts 9:17b

C. The Results of Saul's Experience: Read Acts 9:20-31

1. What was the immediate result of this experience in Saul's own life?
Acts 9:20

2. What effect did this have upon those in Damascus who heard him? Acts 9:21

3. Where did Saul go after his conversion? (See Galatians 1:15-17)

4. What did the Jews of Damascus do, probably after his return from this place? Acts 9:22-25

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5. Notice the effect Saul's conversion had on the disciples at Jerusalem. How did they feel when after three years (See Galatians 1:18) he tried to join them? Acts 9:26

 6. Who caused them to accept Saul as a believer? Acts 9:27

 7. What happened after Saul boldly preached in Jesus' name in Jerusalem? Acts 9:29 (See Acts 22:17-21)

 8. Where did the disciples send Saul after this? Acts 9:30

 9. What was the result in all the churches now that Saul was saved? Acts 9:31

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. After Saul's conversion, was he *at all* like he had been before?

2. Has there ever been such an absolute change in *my* life? (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, 18a)

THE REVELATION GIVEN TO JOHN

No study of the teachings of Jesus would be complete without at least a glimpse into His teachings recorded for us in the book of Revelation. Since this book was studied in detail in Volume II, only a brief summary of the main teachings is given here.

A. The Author of the Messages in the Revelation: Read Revelation 1:9-20

1. What was John told to do while he was imprisoned on the isle of Patmos? Revelation 1:9-11a

2. When he turned to see who spoke with him, Whom did he see? Revelation 1:12-13a

3. About what three subjects was he told to write? Revelation 1:19

B. Main Messages About Jesus Himself: Read Revelation 1:1-8

1. What is one of the main things Jesus has done for people in the past? Revelation 1:5b

2. What is one of the main things He will do in the future? Revelation 1:7, 16:15, 22:7, 12, 20

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C. Main Messages About the Future of the Earth: Read Revelation 6:12-17, 8:7-13

1. What parts of our world will act peculiarly in the future? Revelation 6:12-14

2. What day will follow these events? Revelation 6:17]

3. What will men on earth do because of those things? Revelation 6:15-16

4. How much of the earth will be affected at one time by these judgments? Revelation 8:7b, 8b, 9b, 10b, 11a, 12b

5. What did God's angel say would come to the inhabitants of the earth because of other judgments which follow these? Revelation 8:13

6. How much of the earth will be affected by God's later judgments? Revelation 16:1-2, 3, 4, 8

D. Main Messages About the Future of Satan: Read Revelation 19:11 - 20:3; 20:7-10

1. Who will come from heaven to make war? Revelation 19:11-16

2. Who will fight against Him? Revelation 19:19

3. What will happen to the leaders of this army? Revelation 19:20a, c

4. What will happen to the army itself? Revelation 19:21a, b

5. What will happen to the devil after this? Revelation 20:1-3

6. What will happen to the devil after he once more persuades men of earth to fight against God? Revelation 20:10

E. Main Messages About the Future of Human Beings: Read Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15

1. What will God do with all the dead? Revelation 11:18, 20:12

2. What will those who have died because of their testimony for Jesus be allowed to do? Revelation 20:4b

3. What will happen to all those whose names are not found in Jesus' book of life? Revelation 20:15

4. Who are some that will be included in this group? Revelation 21:8, 27a

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5. Who are the only ones permitted in heaven? Revelation 21:24, 27b

6. What will they do there forever? Revelation 22:3b, 5b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Who controls all the events of the past, the present, and the future?

2. What is my relationship to this Person? What will He do with ME when he judges the world? See John 1:12, Romans 8:1
