

November 11

READ
ACTS 1-2

CHAPTER 1

THE former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

12. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas *the brother* of James.

14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

15 ¶ And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)

16 Men *and* brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

17 For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.

18 Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; inso-much as that field is called in their

proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood.

20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.

21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

24 And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all *men*, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,

25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

CHAPTER 2

AND when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

14 ¶ But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is *but* the third hour of the day.

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

21 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

25 For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:

27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

28 Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

29 Men *and* brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;

31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God

hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

37 ¶ Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this un-to-ward generation.

41 ¶ Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added

unto them about three thousand souls.

42. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all *men*, as every man had need.

46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

The Book of Acts pictures the church's history. It starts at Jerusalem and ends at Rome. It covers a period of transition, with Israel moving off the scene and the church coming to the forefront. God's prophetic program, as outlined in the Old Testament, gives way to a new program, the mystery of the church. It was natural that Peter and the other apostles minister to the twelve tribes of Israel; while Paul ministered to the body, the church. It was through Paul that God revealed His new program (see Ephesians 3). The ministry of Peter is covered in chapters 1-12; while chapters 13-28 deal with the ministry of Paul.

The Book of Acts was written by Luke, the beloved physician. It is vitally important that we understand the basic message of the book, and to do this we must survey it in a general way. It is clear that this book traces the setting aside of Israel and the Kingdom message, following the establishing of the Gospel of the grace of God. The church actually began at Pentecost, but was not fully revealed until later, through the ministry of Paul. Christ had promised to build His church (Matthew 16:18), and in the Book of Acts we will see Peter preaching basically to the Jews; while Paul is preaching the Gospel of grace to the Gentiles. Jesus' great promise in chap-

ter 1:8 was one that gripped the hearts of the disciples and of Christians today, throughout the world. This was His last message to His apostles before ascending to heaven. The teaching in verse 8 clearly reveals God's plan for giving the Gospel. Here at Fundamental Baptist Church our Jerusalem is Ventura; the surrounding cities are our Judaeas; the country is our Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the world are the different places where we are supporting missionaries.

Chapter 2 records the happenings on the day of Pentecost. The Feast of Pentecost took place fifty days after the Feast of Firstfruits (the word Pentecost means fiftieth). This feast is outlined in Leviticus 23:15-21. Just as the Passover is a picture of the death of Christ (I Corinthians 5:7) and the Firstfruits is a picture of the resurrection of Christ (I Corinthians 15:20-23), so Pentecost pictures the coming of the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 12:13).

It is interesting to note the Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts. In chapter 2:38 Peter tells the Jews, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." In chapter 8:14,15 he prayed for the Samaritans, laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. In chapter 10 the Holy Spirit came to the Gentiles when they believed, and Peter could only stand by in amazement. The teaching of verses 43-48 is to hear the Word, believe the Word, receive the Holy Spirit, and then be baptized. It is very important that we not get any of these out of order; for when we do, we confuse the simplicity of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"As righteousness tendeth to life: so he that pursueth evil pursueth it to his own death" (Proverbs 11:19).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 36: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

BIRTHDAYS TODAY

LACHERA COX
JOHNNY CUNNINGHAM

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY **ARMISTICE DAY.**

This is the day when we thank God for the veterans. We thank God for victory in World War I. We thank God for those who paid the supreme sacrifice

that we might be free. We thank God for the servicemen and pray for them. So let us pause today to ask God's blessings upon our servicemen. Let us pray for those who are facing serious danger today. Let us pray for those by name whom we personally know.

1886

THE BIRTHDAY OF THE FAMOUS PREACHER R.G. LEE.

Robert G. Lee was probably the greatest orator of the twentieth century. He had been for many years a successful preacher and one of the leading preachers of the former generation. For many, many years, he pastored the great Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, Tennessee, where he baptized over 300 converts a year.

1793

WILLIAM CAREY LANDED IN INDIA.

The great missionary William Carey certainly blazed a trail for missions for those who followed. It was a significant day in the life of missionaries and missions in general when William Carey landed in India. So, why not pause today to pray for our missionaries. Pray for God's provision and care for them. Maybe we ought to be used of God to send some provision and care to them today.

Particularly are we thinking of India. Maybe you know a missionary in India by name. Maybe you know a Christian living in India. Pray for him.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1831

Nat Turner, leader of Southampton (Va.) slave revolt, hanged, Jerusalem, Virginia.

1890

D. McCree patented the portable fire escape.

1918

Armistice signed, ending World War I. Official records listed 370,000 black soldiers and 1400 black commissioned officers. A little more than half of these soldiers served in the European Theater. Three black regiments—the 369th, 371st and 372nd—received the Croix de Guerre for valor. The 369th was the first American unit to reach the Rhine. Various individual blacks were decorated for bravery. The first soldiers in the American army to be decorated for bravery in France were Henry Johnson and Need-

ham Roberts of the 369th Infantry Regiment.

Blacks were angered by a series of racial incidents.

1925

Louis Armstrong recorded the first of Hot Five and Hot Seven recordings that influenced the direction of jazz.

Xavier University established.

Spingarn Medal awarded to James Weldon Johnson, former U.S. consul in Venezuela and Nicaragua and NAACP executive secretary, for his work as an author, diplomat and leader.

1975

Angola proclaimed independent.

The Story of the Psalms

PSALMS 116

AUTHOR: Unknown

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

It was written at a time of thanksgiving for congregational singing. Just as Psalm 115 was a choir number, so Psalm 116 was written for all to sing. The power of singing is limitless. Once a famous atheist was speaking to a crowd of several thousand people in a giant auditorium. He disproved to his own satisfaction and to the satisfaction of many that there was no God, that the Bible was not true and that Heaven and Hell were both myths. When he finished the address, he then looked on the lower floor, then to the first balcony, then to the second balcony, and challenged anyone to disprove what he had spoken. Not a noise could be heard until out of the stillness of the quiet came a lovely soprano voice from out of the top balcony as a teenage girl arose to sing, "Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross! Lift high His royal banner, it must not suffer loss. From victory unto victory, His army shall He lead, 'til every foe is vanquished and Christ is Lord indeed." Soon other people in the second balcony had joined in the singing. Then the entire upper balcony and the first balcony and then the lower floor people joined until all the people rose and sang together that wonderful song, "Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey. Forth to the mighty conflict in this His glorious day." It is said that there was not a dry eye in the house. When the song was finished someone noticed the atheist had left the platform. The congregational song had not only turned many to faith but caused the atheist to flee!

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD'S PEOPLE:

Psalm 116 was used for congregational singing.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:

Divine inspiration evident in that the scriptures correct those who are trapped in error.

C. THE ERROR THAT GOD IS TOO KIND TO DAMN ANYONE

(Assignment 36)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

() Psalms 9:17

The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

() II Thessalonians 1:7

And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

() II Thessalonians 1:8

In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

() II Thessalonians 1:9

Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

() Revelation 20:10

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.