

# A Study in Acts

## Lesson 2: Acts Chapter 1

### Connecting Luke's Gospel to Acts

In the last 9 verses of \_\_\_\_\_ tell us about Christ's last instructions and His ascension in to heaven.

[Luk 24:45-53](#)

Focus on verse 49. The Apostles were to return to Jerusalem and tarry there until they were \_\_\_\_\_ They then did as Jesus commanded them.

### **Introduction**

The beginning of the book of Acts takes up right where Luke's Gospel left off:

[Act 1:1-5](#)

Luke has reminded us of Jesus' command that the Apostles return to Jerusalem and wait. Instead of "clothed with power on high", we are told they will be \_\_\_\_\_.

### **One Final Question**

[Act 1:6-9](#)

\_\_\_\_\_ was never, in the long history of Israel, or at any other time, contained in the purpose of God for Israel. Even the kingdom of Saul, David, and Solomon, which God permitted but never approved, was from its inception a rejection of God's government of the chosen people.

[1Sa 8:6-7](#)

Israel's desire for the restoration of THAT kingdom blinded their eyes to the Christ; and here it is evident that even the Twelve themselves were contaminated with the earthly kingdom virus!

### **Jesus Ascends**

[Act 1:9](#)

Note that this ends Jesus' visitations to Earth in body.

### **A Prophecy**

[Act 1:10-11](#)

These men were most likely \_\_\_\_\_, so identified from their dazzling apparel, as frequently spoken of in Scripture:

[Mat 28:2-3](#)

[Joh 20:11-12](#)

The message challenges every believer to be busily engaged in the service of the Lord, rather than wasting time by gazing into those things, which are beyond all human knowledge of them. This is also a heavenly pledge that the Second Coming will be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as was Jesus' departure.

### **Waiting in Jerusalem**

## ***Worship with the women (Including Mary) and Jesus' Brethren***

Act 1:12-14

Bethany, on the eastern slope of Olivet, was \_\_\_\_\_ furlongs from Jerusalem (Joh 11:18) and, since the distance from the site of the ascension to Jerusalem was a sabbath day's journey (approximately 3,000 feet), the site would have to be about two-thirds of the distance from Bethany to Jerusalem (fifteen furlongs being about 9,100 feet).

This upper room may not be certainly identified, despite persistent tradition to the effect that it was the place where the \_\_\_\_\_ was held, and that it was in the home of Mary, sister of Barnabas and mother of John Mark.

The list of the Twelve is given four times in the New Testament, in Matthew 10, Mark 3, Luke 6, and here.

There are four separately mentioned classes of persons who made up this company.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

This is the last mention of the Mary in the New Testament.

The brothers of Jesus were James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas:

Mat 13:55 KJV

(55) Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?

and from the fact of their being mentioned apart from the apostles, it is clear that those apostles bearing some of these same names were not brothers of the Lord.

## ***Peter Comments on Judas***

Act 1:15-17 KJV

The apostles knew they were going to be baptized with the \_\_\_\_\_ according to promise and prophecy and that there should be Twelve in the group.

Verse 17 makes two statements:

- 1.
- 2.

This means that Judas, at first, was a genuine apostle, he, not less than the others, being commissioned to cast out demons and to heal all manner of diseases

Mat 10:1 KJV

This refutes the allegation that Judas was a devil from the beginning.

## ***Luke Comments on Judas***

Act 1:18-19 KJV

In most translations, these two verses are placed in parenthesis to let us know that Luke is speaking here, not Peter.

### **Peter Speaks of Qualifications**

[Act 1:20-22 KJV](#)

“Bishoprick” means “office of bishop”.

The two passages from Psalms are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, where certain unnamed enemies of the Psalmist are imprecated. Peter's reason for applying these words to Judas appears to be this: since the enemies of David, who was only a type of Christ, were thus denounced, then certainly an enemy and betrayer of the greater Son of David would be the proper object of the same denunciation.

Verses 21 and 22 shed light upon two of the most important subjects in the New Testament:

1. The qualifications of an apostle
2. The purpose of an apostle, that of witnessing the resurrection of Christ.

If not even a successor to Judas could be named an apostle except from among those who were constant companions of Jesus from John's baptism until the resurrection of Christ, how is it possible that any person in subsequent ages should be hailed as an apostle?

It should be noted that death did not remove Judas from his office; it was his betrayal of Jesus that removed him. When James was executed by Herod (Acts 12:2), no successor was chosen. Moreover, Christ had promised the Twelve:

[Mat 19:28 KJV](#)

Therefore, all of the Twelve except Judas are still in office, all thought of a successor to any of them being absolutely an error.

The prime function of an apostle was that of \_\_\_\_\_; and, in the history of the world, there was never any such thing as a person not a witness becoming a successor to a witness. In the very nature of witnesses, there can be no such thing as a successor.

### **The Replacement is Chosen**

[Act 1:23-26 KJV](#)

Who did the putting forward? Is it to be supposed that the \_\_\_\_\_ disciples mentioned a little later did this? There is no evidence whatever that such a group had been disciples from the beginning of John's baptism; and thus it is not reasonable to suppose that anyone participated in the selection of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ except the apostles.

The KJV states “from which Judas by \_\_\_\_\_ fell”. Other English translations state that “Judas \_\_\_\_\_”. The Greek word “parabaiano” is used here and means “transgression”. Leaving this word out in some English translations has led to confusion on this matter.

Is there any more disturbing phrase in the bible than “that he might go to his own place”? It shows that we all have a “place” in \_\_\_\_\_.