

**Introduction: Luke links the power of Jesus ministry to the power of the Holy Spirit**

In Luke, beginning at His baptism, Jesus is the bearer of the Holy Spirit. Through the power of the Holy Spirit Jesus preaches the Word, He casts out demons, He heals the sick.

In Acts we see that the bearer of the Holy Spirit becomes the giver of the Holy Spirit.

In Luke's theology, the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus and comes upon the church to empower us for witness and service.

*(Jesus) said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Luke 24:44-49*

**Jesus' Last Recorded Instructions in Luke's Gospel.**

**1. The heart of the gospel is the death and resurrection of Christ.**

**2. The disciples will preach this salvation to all nations**

**3. They will start in Jerusalem.**

**4. The disciples are witnesses to these events.**

*"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life." 1 John 1:1*

**5. The coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles is something the Father has promised.**

**6. The disciples are to wait for this event in Jerusalem.**

**7. When the Holy Spirit comes, they will be clothed with power for their ministry.**

**Jesus Ascends into Heaven.**

**1. In Luke, the ascension fulfills the words of the Father spoken at the baptism.**

*“When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.” Luke 3:21-22*

A. At the baptism the words of the Father confirmed Jesus dual role as the Messianic Son and the Suffering Servant.

B. Through his death, Jesus fulfilled his mission as the suffering servant.

*“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.” Isaiah 53:5.*

C. At the ascension, the Suffering Servant is exalted to the place of power as the triumphant Son of David.

## **2. In Acts, Jesus’ redemptive work through the Spirit continues**

*“In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen” Acts 1:1-2.*

Acts documents the continuation of the work of Jesus. Just as Jesus taught and healed through the power of the Holy Spirit, after his ascension he continues his ministry through the Holy Spirit in the church.

## **3. In Acts, Luke restates the purpose for the baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

*“Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” 1:4-5.*

*Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” Acts 1:6*

*“It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. Acts 1:7-9*

**Conclusion: The same Holy Spirit who descended upon Jesus will descend upon His followers to equip them to continue His mission.**

**1. God uses any people anywhere to plead for the souls of people who are everywhere.**

**2. Receiving God’s anointing comes down to a matter of desire**

*“(The disciples) all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.” Acts 1:14*