

ACTS 1:9-14

Introduction: In Acts 1:8, we learned that Christ's disciples would receive the Holy Spirit's enduement with **power** in order to accomplish the ministry to Israel that Christ commanded them to do.

- a. *For **40** days (post-resurrection) Christ had been **pre**paring them to **con**tinue the Kingdom earthly message that He had begun in the Gospels.
 - b. They were to proclaim that Jesus Christ was Israel's Messiah and the nation needed to **re**pent of their idolatry, apostasy, and **un**belief.
1. Also note: When you read [the Holy Spirit is come upon you], some try to say they did not receive the Holy Spirit in them. They did not have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. That is **not** true. In the Old Testament, they had Him **in** them.
 - a. *Daniel was **filled** with the Holy Spirit. David wrote, in Psalm 51, they had the Spirit in them. What they did not have was **re**generation of their spirit, being born of God's Spirit, and His presence being **sealed** in them.
 - b. In the O.T., the Spirit would move upon individuals, and in them, to fulfill a special task or ministry (builders of Tabernacle - Samson). But the Spirit would not **per**manently remain in, or upon, them. They could be indwelt **tem**porarily.

John 14:16-17, 20 - And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; John 14:17 *Even* the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. John 14:20 At that day ye shall know that I *am* in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

A Truth: You can be in Christ and Christ in you according to the Prophecy Program. But keep this clear in your understanding - in these verses, "in Christ" is not the **same** as later when Paul explains that believers today are "in Christ" - in His Body!

2. Also note: Some try to use [the Holy Spirit is come upon you] as a **second** blessing. They say you get the Holy Spirit in you when saved. Then there is a second Pentecostal experience when the Spirit comes upon you, with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

Just remember, dispensationally, we Body believers are not in the Pentecostal Program. Don't be fooled! Don't go **back to Pentecost, as many promote.

A.

1. Can you imagine this scene! Why was He taken up to Heaven?

Acts 1:9 - And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Luke 24:49 - And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

John 16:7 - Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

2. [a cloud received him] Some believe this refers to a heavenly **angelic** host that ushers Him to heaven.

Matthew 24:30 - And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

*Also, when He returns to earth notice:

Matthew 26:64 - Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

Luke 21:27 - And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Revelation 1:7 - Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they *also* which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

3. No doubt the disciples were disappointed He was leaving. But watching their Messiah **flying** up to Heaven ingrained into their hearts the greatness of Christ. Surely this scene motivated them to carry on His work!

Luke 24:51-53 - And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. Luke 24:52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:
Luke 24:53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

- B. 1. Here we have the promise given to them about His return to earth. Two angelic beings were the

Acts 1:10-11 - And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Acts 1:11 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.

messengers of this truth and hope. The reason for **two** was because of what was written in their Law (Scripture):

John 8:17 - It is also written in your law, that the testimony of two men is true.

*He will return visibly and physically - [this same Jesus....come in like manner...].

2. Notice: Acts 1:12a [Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet,]

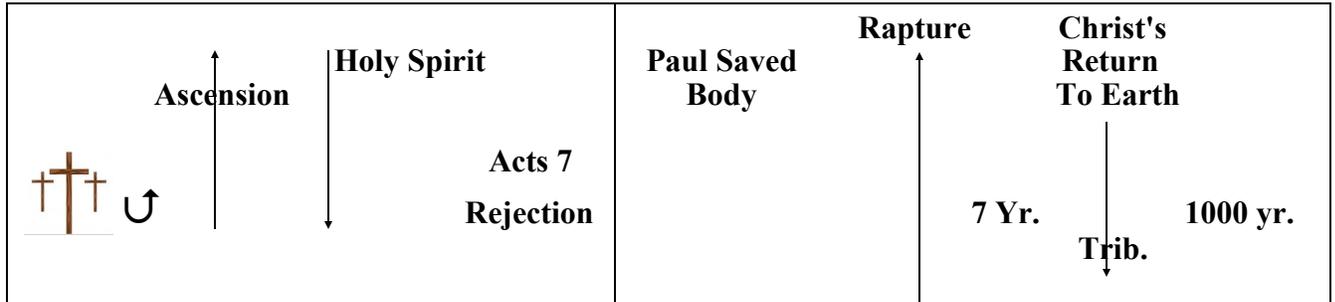
a. The **last** place where His foot stood on the planet earth was on the Mount of Olives, and when Christ returns at the end of the Tribulation - the **first** place His foot hits the ground will be the Mount of Olives! He will go several places before He gets there (Boza-Jerusalem-Megiddo), but when He gets **off** that white horse that is where it is going to be!

Zechariah 14:2-4 - For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Zech. 14:3 Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.
Zech. 14:4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

b. **This is called the Revelation of **Christ** to Israel, the devil, and nations.

- Paul, the Apostle to the Body, **never** says Christ is returning to the earth so we (the Body) can live with Him on earth. For us, we will meet Him in the **air** to live in **Heaven**. We are not praying "Thy Kingdom come". We are praying for the Body Church to be taken out of here...to **go** up!

1 Thessalonians 4:14, 16-17 - For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. 1Thess. 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 1Thess. 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.



- Also in verses 10-11, the two angels told them it was **not** time for them to be looking up. The end-time people will know **when** it is time to look up for Jesus' return to earth.

Luke 21:25-27 - And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Luke 21:26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. Luke 21:27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

****But for us today, it could be any time, any moment, or at least **soon** that we will be called up!**

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 - Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 1Cor. 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

C.

Acts 1:12-14 - Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. Acts 1:13 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. Acts 1:14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

- As they returned in obedience to **wait** for the enduement of power from Heaven, they were rejoicing and confident (Luke 24:51-54). Their trip was short, being [a sabbath day's journey], which was about a mile.
- These disciples gathered in the upper room, probably where they had the Passover meal with Jesus. According to verse 15, there were about 120 men in total.

*At times, when the 12 names are mentioned, they are different. The reason for this (like today) is they all had **more** than one name. But almost always there was one name at the top of the list, **Peter**! This was because he was the dominant leader. At times, it even says: "Peter and the eleven" (2:14). This is because Christ had chosen Peter to have that authority.

Matthew 16:18-19 - And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Matt. 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

3. In verse 14, it says [with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus].
 - a. The women could have been Mary the wife of Clopas, Mary and Martha, Salome, Mary Magdalene, and Jesus' mother. During Christ's 3-year ministry, these are some of the women who stood out in faith.
 - b. *This is the **last** mention of Mary, Jesus' mother. She is never again referred to in the New Testament.
 - c. But notice, also present were Jesus' biological **siblings**, or the natural children of Mary and Joseph that they had **after** Jesus' supernatural birth.

Mark 6:3 - Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

John 7:3, 5 - His brethren therefore said unto him, Depart hence, and go into Judaea, that thy disciples also may see the works that thou doest. John 7:5 For neither did his brethren believe in him.

Matthew 13:55-56 - Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? Matt. 13:56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this *man* all these things?

I Corinthians 15:5, 7 - And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 1Cor. 15:7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

- d. One thing all these Messiah, Little Flock, believers had was **unity** and **faith** in waiting for the promise of the Holy Spirit.

Questions?