

Take-away Truths

- A. Your mission as a Christian is not building your own little kingdom. Christ is going about the business of restoring the Kingdom to Israel in a way that may completely surprise us. Your agenda and mine must get out of the way and make room for that agenda.
- Ephesians 2:12
- B. The glorious promises of Isaiah, the glorious promises of the prophets, the glorious promise to Abraham that the nations of the world would be blessed in Him, are all yours. They are fulfilled in the church. They are about you.
- C. We are called to live our lives in fulfillment of the Scriptures.

LIVE THE STORY

We must not only love the Gospel Story, we must begin to live the Gospel Story, indeed, to have the Central Character live in us.

- How might the approach Jerry is taking in Acts differ from other studies of Acts that you have participated in?
- When Jesus was talking about the Kingdom of God, why was that very relevant to what they wanted to know?
- How are what the apostles were to wait for and the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel connected?
- How do Isaiah 43 & 44 set up the *time of restoration* and *Spirit outpouring* as a time when God confronts the idols of the world, and how does Acts 1:8 point to the fulfillment of this conflict?
- Why is it vital that our call to be witnesses begins with the Lord Jesus confronting the idols in your own heart? What idols has the Lord Jesus confronted in you?
- How does Acts reveal that our life today is a fulfillment of the Scriptures, and how does it call us to make sure we are living our lives in the fulfillment of the Scriptures?
- Why does Acts reveal genuine purpose for the believer?

For What Are They Waiting?

Jerry Cisar — May 4, 2014

Text: Acts 1:1-8

Introduction: Acts and You

- A. An Invitation to a Fresh Study of Acts.
- i. The purpose of Acts: *Testifying to the authenticity of the Christian faith as the fulfillment of the Old Testament promises.*
 - ii. The *Big Rocks* in Acts.
- B. The Book of Acts is about You
- i. Psalm 66:5-6
 - ii. Acts is about who we are, not just about what our predecessors did.
- C. Chapter One: Setting the Agenda for the book of Acts.

I. He spoke about the Kingdom of God. (1-3)

- A. "What was Jesus saying about the Kingdom of God during those 40 days?"

*When Jesus spoke to them about the Kingdom of God, He was talking about what they had been **waiting for** and were now **waiting for again**.*

- i. Luke 24:20-21
- ii. Luke 1:32-33
- iii. Luke 1:68-77

iv. Luke 24:47

v. Luke 2:25, 30, 32.

vi. Luke 2:38

B. *Are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?*

II. He Spoke about the Promised Holy Spirit (4-6)

A. An example of one of these conversations.

B. *Wait for the Holy Spirit!* (1:4,5)

C. Why is waiting for the Promised Holy Spirit the same as waiting for the restoration of the Kingdom of Israel?

i. Isaiah 32:1, 9-14, 15

ii. Luke 24:49

Acts 1:4,5	Luke 24:49
<i>Do not leave Jerusalem</i>	<i>stay in the city</i>
<i>the gift my Father promised</i>	<i>what my Father has promised</i>
<i>baptized in the Holy Spirit</i>	<i>clothed with power from on high</i>

iii. The Father promised (Isa. 32:15) that the restoration of the Kingdom of Israel would come when *“the Spirit is poured out on us from on high.”*

III. He Spoke of How, Not When (7-8)

A. How, not when, the Kingdom will be restored to Israel.

B. *“In Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

i. The capitol city

ii. The historic boundaries

iii. The new boundaries... or lack thereof.

iv. Isaiah 49:5-6

C. *...and you will be my witnesses.*

i. In Isaiah 43 & 44, when God pours out His Spirit and restores His people, He said he will make them a nation of witnesses, saying, “you are my witnesses”.

➤ Isaiah 43:5-12

➤ Isaiah 44:1-8

ii. Acts is about this restoration of the Kingdom to Israel, and it chronicles a conflict between the Lord of the nations and the idols of the age.

➤ Romans 11:25-26