

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries 5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Filling in the Gaps Lesson 11 The Holy Spirit

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Reference: Acts 1:1-8

Many of today's Bibles have for the title this book as, the book of Acts or the Acts. It is really the Acts of Jesus Christ or the Acts of the Holy Spirit. Take a look at Acts 1:1. The Bible says, *The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus*, (Who wrote a former treatise to Theophilus? The book of Luke.) He says that he wrote *of all that Jesus began both to do and teach*, So if the former treatise is what He began to do, then it stands to reason that this current treatise is what he continued to do. So what we have in the book of Acts is the on-going or the continuing ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, not on earth in His own body, but on earth in the body of the believers. If you come back to Luke chapter 24:49, these are the last words that Jesus spoke to the disciples, *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.* So the conclusion of Luke lines up with the beginning of the book of Acts.

Acts 1:1 the Bible says, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach... That is the order. Order is very important. He did first, He taught second. Listen to this cross reference. Matthew 23:2-3. The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. There is a difference between Jesus and the religious leaders of His day; the difference is that He did not just teach, He did and taught. First and foremost, He was a doer of His Father's word and His Father's will. Then secondly, He was a teacher thereof.

Acts 1: 2 says, 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: Those commandments are given in Mark 16:19. (Now let me give you something that is interesting to me, the Bible says in Mark 16:14-20. Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached everywhere, (Now look.) the Lord working with them, (He is present in the person of the Holy Spirit. He did not say working through them or for them or by them, but with them.) ...the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

The passage in Mark that we just read is probably the most consistently attacked passage in all the Bible by the critics of the King James Bible. Critics say that the last twelve or so-many verses of Mark are not supposed to be in our Bible because they are not in the Vaticanus or Sinaiticus manuscript. Now it is interesting that Acts 1 and verse 2 references a portion of scripture that the critics of the Bible say should not be in there.



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Unfortunately since false doctrine is wide spread in these last days, we may need to bring it to light as we go through these lessons, we will not dwell on them, for it is far more important to learn correct doctrine than false doctrine. There are some interpretations of Acts, (Acts 1-7, Acts 1-12 and so forth) which rely upon logic rather than on scripture. Here is the only safe way to study scripture. You must make certain that no verse or passage of scripture contradicts your idea, doctrine or your teaching before you hold to it. If any part of the scripture breaks down or contradicts your teaching or idea, you have to be willing to abandon it.

The idea taught by Bullinger and the hyper-dispensationalist is that from Acts 1 to 7 the Apostles were trying to bring in the Jewish kingdom; when the Pharisees, scribes and Sadducees stoned Stephen, the Lord decided, okay, forget this idea of bringing in the Jewish kingdom and let us start the church.

Look at Acts 1:3. When Jesus is preparing the Apostles for their ministry of going forth with the Holy Ghost and preaching, what did He speak to them about? Things pertaining to which kingdom. The kingdom of God; not the kingdom of heaven. He did not speak to them about an earthly kingdom. He spoke to them about a spiritual kingdom. He did not prepare them or instruct them into how to go out and bring in the kingdom of heaven, that is the earthly kingdom through Israel, but He spoke to them about going out and bringing in the spiritual kingdom, into which men enter into by a new birth.

The phrase "kingdom of heaven" does not appear in the book of Acts? Not in Acts 1 to 7; not in Acts 1 to 12; not in Acts 1 to 28. But, the term "kingdom of God" shows up seven times in the book of Acts. He was giving them first chance to enter into the spiritual kingdom. *To the Jew first*, (Romans 1:16) *and also to the Greek*.

Again, think with me on these terms. Look at Daniel 9:24. Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people (That's Israel) and upon thy holy city (That would be Jerusalem), to finish the transgression (That is the national sin of Israel against God for violating His commandments. The transgression, that is Israel's sin, Jerusalem's sin), and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy. So there are seventy weeks appointed for the accomplishment of all these things. Verse 25. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks (So that is 69 weeks out of 70): the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times. 26 And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. 27 And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week.

Let us examine. We have a seventy-week time period, weeks of years; a four hundred and ninety year time period. At the end of four hundred and eighty three years, Messiah is cut off. Jesus dies on the cross. What is left in God's dealing with the Jews? Seven years. Seven years that we call the time of Jacob's trouble or the Great Tribulation. There is no room in Daniel 9, for a return to God's dealings with Israel outside of that seventieth week. You cannot have a fifteen year trial period or a twenty year second chance or a ten year window where God is dealing with Israel. There is no room for that in Daniel 9. The appointed time is four hundred and eighty three years and seven years. The only thing left in God's dealings with the Jew is seven years.



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That is why when Peter preaches in Acts 2 (we are getting a little ahead) he says, save yourselves from this untoward generation — because the only event left for the Jews is the Great Tribulation The appeal in Acts 2 and the appeal in Acts 3 is not, for them to get another chance if they get right. The appeal is to individuals within the nation of Israel. The same message precedes Lot and Noah. They were told to get out, it is not a matter of whether they will correct their wrong doings, that period of time has passed, now the message is "get out." So when Jesus sends these apostles and disciples out to preach they preached Acts 1:3, things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

Verse 4. And, being assembled together with them (This is Jesus meeting with His disciples.), 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. You have this in a number of places throughout the New Testament. In John Jesus promised them in John 14 thru 16, that He would send them another Comforter. And in Luke 24:49 that they were to tarry in Jerusalem till they were due power from on high. Luke 24:49 overlaps with Acts 1:4. It is almost like you are watching the sequel to the film and they are going to show a few minutes of what happened last week just before they take you into what happened this week That is what Luke is doing. It is literary style.

Verse 5. (Jesus is still speaking here.) For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. Note carefully, He did not say they would receive the Holy Ghost not many days hence because if you recall from John 20:22, they had already received the Holy Ghost. What He has promised them is that they would be baptized with the Holy Ghost. What is that equated to? John baptized with water. He immersed them completely in water. What is Jesus going to do? He is going to immerse them completely with the Holy Ghost. What did He do? He filled the whole place with the Holy Ghost; and they were baptized with the Holy Ghost. (We will discuss this further when we get to Acts Chapter 2.)

Notice that He said that *John truly baptized with water*; and then He didn't say, but ye shall be baptized with fire. Do you remember what the Lord said in Matthew 3:11? He said, *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Now, the one who came after John is the one who baptizes with the Holy Ghost; and He is the one who also baptizes with fire. Notice what the many people miss in comparing this section. Jesus says in Acts 1:5, ye (you believers) <i>shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost;* He says nothing about the baptism of fire. How many of you have tried to deal with an babe in Christ confused about this section and they told you that Acts 2 was the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire?

Lets us analyze. What it is to be baptized in water? The whole place is full of water; I am put into that place or into that water. That is baptism. What is the baptism of the Holy Ghost? The whole place is full of the Holy Ghost. I am completely immersed in the Holy Ghost. Well, what would the baptism of fire be? There is whole place full of fire and I am completely immersed in fire.

John is speaking to a multitude somebody is coming after me who will baptize you, the whole group with the Holy Ghost and with fire; if you are a believer, the Holy Ghost and if are an unbeliever, with fire. When He is speaking to just believers in Acts 1:5, He makes no mention of baptizing with fire, only of baptizing with the Holy Ghost. Praise God!



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Some people have said to me in the past, "Have you received the baptism of fire?" "No, thank God! And never will, do not want that baptism, do not want to be immersed in fire!

Verse 6. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, (Now look – this is where they are going in their mind, this is what the disciples are thinking.) Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? They are still on that earthly throne track. They have not been able to shake that earthly kingdom mind set. Do you remember where we were in Luke 24? (Come back there because Acts 1 picks up where Luke 24 left off.) There are two on the road to Emmaus; and they are sad. The Lord comes and draws near to them; and He asks them, why are you sad? (Verse 17.) What are you so downcast about? And they said, "Have not you heard?" "Heard what?" Look at verse 21. But we trusted (Past tense. We are not trusting now.) ...we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: What were they looking for? National redemption. What would national redemption mean? The establishment of the kingdom. So here is what they asked Him in Acts 1:6. "Lord, is it time? Wow, you really are alive. Do we get the national redemption now? Are you going to restore Israel now?" What are they asking about? Is it time for the kingdom of heaven. What is Jesus wanting to talk about? The kingdom of God. Until the Holy Spirit indwells them, they are not going to get the spiritual truth of this thing. All they are going to look at is the physical truth.

Verse 7. And he said unto them, (Never mind that... it is not your concern.) It is not for you... to know the times or the seasons... We have all heard people say, as they refer to the verse, "you cannot know the day or the hour" but they say you can know the times and the seasons..."? Because Jesus said in the gospels, no man knows the day or the hour of my coming. Mark 13:32, but they fail to incorporate this verse. Jesus just said you cannot know the times or the seasons.

Jesus intends for them to operate from day one outside the time frame of the Jewish prophecies of the Old Testament. There is no need to even buy a calendar. It is not for you to know."

...which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But (But... now look. In contrast to the restoration of the kingdom to Israel, in contrast to times and seasons...) 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. Now, let us see in context what they are not doing and then see in context what they are doing. First of all, they are not being sent forth in the same manner as the Old Testament prophets, kings or priests were ever sent forth. They are going to collectively receive an endowment of power, God Himself living in them, working and speaking through them. David, Abraham, Moses, the Levites, the judges did not have that. He is going to give every single one of them who is a believer the power of the Holy Ghost. That is different.

He is not going to send them out as a Jeremiah, Isaiah, Joel, or a Zechariah to tell the nation to do this or that or correct this or that. The only message Peter and the apostles have in Acts 2 is get out of the nation. Why? They are not bearing witness unto the temple, the law, the sacrifices or the commandments. They are bearing witness unto Jesus Christ. That is what He told them in Acts 1:8. I want you to go out and tell people about me. Twenty two times in the book of Acts, someone is going to preach or testify about the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Not one time is anybody going to be told to bring an offering, a sacrifice, keep a commandment or observe a feast day, they are going to be told Jesus Christ died, He was



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buried and He rose from the dead and Jesus Christ has ascended to the right hand of the Father. They are going to go forth and bear witness unto him.

Notice what else they are not going to do. They are not told that they are going to go out and win souls or save souls. They are going to go out and bear witness to Jesus Christ. If people believe they will get saved. If people believe they will be won. But their objective is not to win people, their objective is to bear witness to Jesus Christ. If the objective is to win people, sooner or later you are going to be tempted to come up with some schemes or some programs that will enable you to win people, whether they are saved or not! But if your objective is to let the Holy Ghost use you to bear witness of Jesus Christ, there is no scheme, no gimmick, no shortcut. You just go forth and proclaim the truth. And he that will hear will hear and he that will forbear will forbear.

Notice also, that Jesus Christ anticipates not the conversion of the nation within a space of a year, two years or five years. Jesus anticipates a long steady process of traveling from point "A" to point "B" to point "C" until eventually everyone the world over has heard the gospel. There is an anticipation here of missionary journeys and much travel. There is an anticipation here of finding men, learning languages and working within cultural circumstances. He then takes them beyond Jerusalem to Judaea then to Samaria. Then He says to men without printing presses, radio, airplanes or satellites and unto the uttermost part of the earth. This is going to take awhile. What does Jesus have in view? Matthew 16.

Turn to Matthew 16. See what is the Lord planning before He ever goes to the cross? Matthew 16 and verse 18. 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. Now, do you know what the Apostle Paul writes about in the book of Ephesians? A building? Do you know what He refers to Himself as in First Corinthians 3:10? A wise master builder. It is obvious that Jesus Christ had in view what He would later reveal to the Apostle Paul was already in operation when it was revealed. To say, "well, there's no church in view in the early chapters of Acts... if the Jewish leaders had trusted Jesus, then He would have brought in the kingdom..." has no substantial grounds.

Acts 1, verse 8, Here the consummation of all that we will ever need or want. Verse 2. ...after he had given commandments... Verse 3. ...after his passion... Verse 8. ...after the Holy Ghost is come upon you... We have the commandments of Christ, the risen Christ, the power of the Holy Ghost – all given to us before we would ever ask to go out and speak to anybody. What a blessing? We have His words, with His resurrection, with the power of His Holy Spirit.

There are seven references in the New Testament of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Five of them are prophetic; that is, there is five times the Lord says the baptism of the Holy Spirit is going to happen. Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:8. Okay, so we only have two left. One is historical. In Peter's report in Acts 11:16, he says the baptism of the Holy Spirit happened. He is referring to what Jesus had done when He baptized with the Holy Ghost. One is doctrinal. First Corinthians 12:13. It defines the event. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body... We have a group of individuals that the Holy Spirit so immersed that they are now no longer separate entities, but they are members of one body, the body of Jesus Christ. That is the definition of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Verse 9. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. You have to admit that had to have been probably the most



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exciting thing that ever happened to these guys. Look at Luke 24:51 ...while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. Between Luke 24:51 and 52, you have Acts 1:10-11. Look at Luke 24:52. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: Look at Acts 1:12. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet... Compare Acts 1 and Luke 24. He lifts up His hands; He blesses them. They watch Him as He ascends up into heaven. Then Acts 1:10, And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; So the scripture would not be broken; Jesus said that you need two witnesses. ...that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. Matthew 18:16, there are 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. This is not a reincarnation., ...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. Lets look at verse 2....taken up. verse 9...taken up. verse 11...taken up. What does He have in the harvest?

1. First fruits. He took up the Old Testament saints.

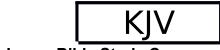
Main harvest – Rapture! He Take's up the New Testament saints.

Gleanings. He Take's up the Tribulation saints.

So there is three times the words, *taken up* that show up. And then, lest you get to strict on the dispensational picture there, verse 22. *He was taken up from us.* So you have four times in Acts 1, this term *taken up* is used.

In verse 9, *a cloud received Him out of their sight*. Let us read some references to clouds being connected with the Lord coming and going. The clouds seem to be His escort. Some of these verses are Rapture; some Second Coming but they relate the Lord being escorted by or traveling in clouds.

Notes



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Filling in the Gaps **Lesson 11 The Holy Spirit**

Name: _____

1.	What is repentance?
2.	Explain why do and teach and in their proper order?
3.	Why do critics say that Mark 16 should stop after vs. 8?
4.	Explain how contrary the above criticism truly is when compared to the other passages regarding the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
5.	What is the Kingdom of Heaven?
6.	Can you explain in brief the seventy-week time period in Daniel Chapter 9?
7.	What happens during that seventieth week?
8.	Do you remember what the Lord said in Matthew 3:11?
9.	What is the baptism of fire?
10.	Why is it that no man can know the day the Lord returns? Explain the same way the Lesson does.



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- 11. I have often heard that the reason why the LORD was standing during the stoning of Stephen was because he was so upset at the Jews that HE was getting ready to return to earth right then. Why is this statement and others like it so far from the truth?
- 12. What does the Apostle Paul write about in the Book of Ephesians? A Building?
- 13. What is Jesus trying to draw the attention to the Apostles about Peter?
- What are the 7 references in the Bible regarding the baptism of the Holy Spirit? 14. Explain what each of them are about.
- 15. What are the three raptures in the Bible? Explain!



Scripture Memorization (write these verses on the back of this page, they must be in KJV) Acts 1:7; Luke 24:51-52; Acts1:9

True/False

- No man knows the day nor the hour, but you can know the month and the year of the Lord return, if you study hard enough.
- The Bible was written by the Holy Spirit of GOD and has no mistakes.
- Clouds have something to do with the LORD.

Any questions?