

A NEW BREED OF PEOPLE

THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

Chapter Twenty Eight

July 29, 2012

Acts 1:1-10

Acts 1:1-3

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ² until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, ³ to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God

Acts 1:4-6

⁴ And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶ Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”

Acts 1:7-8

⁷ And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. ⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:7-8

⁹ Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

4 Principles That Changed the Apostles Into a New Breed of Men

1. There was a new presence of Jesus that they
had never had until now

Many Infallible proofs

A. They were in a room with the doors closed
and locked and Jesus appeared to them

B.. Then there was that antagonistic Jewish
Rabbi that zealot named Saul of Tarsus

Who hated Christians persecuted them

He became Paul the Apostle,

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

A. TO MARY MAGDALENE...

1. Described in Mark's gospel – Mark 16:9-11

2. Expanded upon by John in his gospel

John 20:11-18

She saw Jesus and talked with Him

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

B. TO THE OTHER WOMEN...

1. as revealed in Matthew's gospel

Mt.28:9-10

2. Where Jesus reiterated what the angel had said -

They touched Jesus and worshiped Him

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

C. TO TWO DISCIPLES WALKING IN THE COUNTRY...

1. Described in Mark's gospel

Mark 16:12-13

2. Elaborated by Luke in his gospel

Luke 24:13-32

They walked with Him, talked with Him,
and ate with Him

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

D. TO PETER ALONE...

1. Reported after the testimony of the two disciples - Luke 24:36-43
2. Mentioned by Paul in his epistle to the Corinthians – I Cor. 15:5
 - He saw Jesus

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

E. TO THE APOSTLES WITH THOMAS ABSENT...

1. Described in detail by Luke

Luke 24:36-43

2. Also by John – John 19:25

They saw Jesus, He ate food in their
presence

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

F. TO THE APOSTLES WITH THOMAS PRESENT...

1. A week later, as described by John
John 20:26-31

2. Mentioned by Paul in his epistle to the
Corinthians – I Cor. 15:5

Convincing Thomas, who would not believe
unless he could see
and touch Jesus

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

G. TO SEVEN DISCIPLES BY THE SEA OF GALILEE...

1. Including Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel, James and John – John 21:1-2
2. While they were fishing, and then eating together – John 21:3-25
 - They saw Him, ate breakfast with Him, talked with Him

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

H. TO FIVE HUNDRED BRETHREN AT
ONCE...

1. Recorded by Paul in his epistle to the
Corinthians – I Cor. 15:6

2. Possibly in Galilee as directed by the
angel and Jesus – Mk.16:7; Mt. 28:10,16-17

3. Possibly when the Great Commission was
first given – Mt. 28:18-20

A large number, ruling out any vision or
hallucination

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

I. TO JAMES THE LORD'S BROTHER

1. Recorded by Paul in his epistle to the
Corinthians – I Cor. 15:7

2. Who previously did not believe, but then
became a disciple

John 7:5; Acts 1:14

Convincing a brother in the flesh who had his
doubts

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

J. TO THE DISCIPLES WITH ANOTHER COMMISSION...

1. Recorded by Luke in his gospel

Luke 24:44-49

2. This time in Jerusalem, shortly before His
ascension – Acts 1:3-8

They studied with Him for days, as He
taught the Scriptures

THE APPEARANCES OF CHRIST

K. TO THOSE PRESENT AT HIS
ASCENSION...

1. Recorded in Mark's gospel

Mark 16:19-20

2. Also by Luke in both of his books

Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12

They looked steadfastly as they saw Him ascend

People in history who have been changed by the resurrection

C.S.Lewis

Simon Greely, founder of Harvard Law School

2. There was a new power-the power of the Holy Spirit

Vs.7 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Part One- in the Gospels Jesus did all the work

Part Two- He is going to send the Holy Spirit to indwell and empower the believers to do the work

There was a new power-the power of the
Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is mentioned 60 times in the
Book of Acts

Vs.5 "for John truly baptized with water, but
you shall be baptized (Immersed) with the Holy
Spirit not many days from now."

Three key elements in understanding the power of the Holy Spirit

Vs. 8

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;

a. The Holy Spirit will come upon you

b. You shall receive power-Greek word is dunamis from which we get our word

Dynamite, dynamic

Three key elements in understanding the power of the Holy Spirit

c. Witnesses

Old Testament was the age of God the Father

New Testament was the age of Jesus, the Son

Since the Book of Acts we are living in the age of the Holy Spirit

Great leaders of church history believe this

Ignatius of Antioch between 35 and 100 AD-
said he personally gave words of prophecy

Justin Martyr who died around 165AD-“It is
possible now to see among us men and women
who possess the gifts of the Spirit of God”

Great leaders of church history believe this

Irenaeus-200AD - spoke of prophecy healings
tongues uttered in his day

He said “even the dead have been raised up and
remain among us for many years”

Father Tertullian –wrote a 7 volume work on the
movement of the Holy Spirit

Great leaders of church history believe this

Cyril of Jerusalem 310-386AD- had his ministry thought that it was not impossible for baptismal candidates to prophesy when they came out of the water of baptism because he experienced it

Great leaders of church history believe this

Augustine from 354 to 430AD - Wrote in one of
his books The City of God after seeing many
miracles these words

What am I to do I am so pressed by the promise
of finishing that I cannot record all the miracles
that I know

Great leaders of church history believe this

In 1750 AD John Wesley wrote

The great reason why the miraculous gifts were soon withdrawn was not only that faith and holiness well-nigh lost but the dry formal orthodox men began then to ridicule whatever gifts they did not have themselves and to cry them all as evil madness or imposter

3. A New Perspective on the future

Vs.7 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"

And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority."

4. A new plan was given to the disciples

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

4. A new plan was given to the disciples

The outline of the Book of Acts

Chapters 1-8 we see the gospel going to
Jerusalem and Judea

Chapters 8-9 we see the gospel going to Samaria

Chapters 10-29 the gospel goes to Caesarea,
Antioch, Asia Minor, Macedonian, Greece, and
finally to Rome. It starts spreading out to the
ends of the earth

The Apostles Became a New Breed of Men

1. There was a new presence of Jesus that they had never had until now
2. There was a new power-the power of the Holy Spirit
3. A New Perspective on the future
4. A new plan was given to the disciples