

ESTABLISHING A WITNESSING CHURCH

Acts 1-2

A. Prologue: This is Part 2 of The Story of Jesus' Quest (1:1-2; Luke 1:1-4)

1. This is about the second _____: the *continuation* of Jesus' message and ministry (1:1)
2. The Introduction to "the Introduction"

B. Jesus' Post-Resurrection Ministry: The Preparation of the Witnesses (1:3-5)

1. Jesus' Actions
 - a. He had chosen them
 - b. He showed himself to them
 - c. He taught and commanded them
 - d. He promised the Holy Spirit
2. Jesus' Purposes
 - a. To _____ their faith
 - b. To instruct them in the _____ of God
 - c. To change their _____ of Jesus
 - d. To wean them away from dependence on His _____ presence.

C. The Pre-Launch Sequence: Prerequisites for Mission (1:6-2:41)

1. Commission: the mandate to _____ (1:6-8)
 - a. A _____: "my witness"
 - b. A _____: "when the *Holy Spirit* comes on you
 - c. A _____: "in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"
2. Direction: The _____ Lord (1:9-11)
3. Agents: A _____ complement of apostles (1:12-26)
4. Power: The _____ of the Holy Spirit (2:1-41)
 - a. The Event (2:1-13)
 - 1) The significance of the three physical phenomena
 - Sound (like a violent wind) → a life-giving _____
 - Sight (like tongues of fire) → a purifying _____
 - Speech ("other" languages) → a universal _____
 - 2) The reaction: amazed and _____ (2:12 – "what does this mean?")
 - b. The Explanation (2:14-36)
 - 1) This event inaugurated the "age of the Spirit" prophesied by Joel" (2:14-21)
 - 2) Joel's "Lord" who provides _____ is none other than Jesus of Nazareth (2:22-36). This is proven by recent history.

- 2) Joel's "Lord" who provides salvation from judgment is none other than Jesus of Nazareth (2:22-36). This is proven by recent history.
- a) Jesus' life and ministry (22) – "a man accredited by God (as you yourselves know)"
 - miracles (demonstrating the power of God)
 - wonders (their effect being to arouse amazement)
 - signs (the purpose being to signify spiritual truth)
 - b) Jesus' death on the cross (23)
 - You killed him
 - God ordained it
 - c) Jesus' resurrection from the dead (24-32)
 - God reversed Jesus' death
 - This plan was prophesied by David
 - The fact was witnessed by the apostles
 - d) Jesus' exaltation to heaven (33-35)
 - The proof of his exaltation is the outpouring of the Spirit – witnessed by all
 - The confirmation of his exaltation is another prophecy of David (God planned it)
 - The prophecy not only indicates where Jesus is, but what he is doing (awaiting the final judgment)
 - e) Conclusion (36)
 - You thought him to be an imposter (in spite of God's confirming evidence) and you killed him.
 - God has declared him to be . . .
 - Messiah = Israel's Deliverer
 - Lord = The Master of all people
 - The One at God's right hand
 - The One who poured out the Spirit
 - The One given the same title as God
- c. The Effect of Pentecost (2:37-41: "Brothers, what shall we do?")
- 1) The _____ of the hearers
 - 2) Peter's offer of forgiveness and the _____ of the Holy Spirit to all who repented and believed
 - 3) _____ were baptized
- d. The Significance of Pentecost
- 1) It was the final act of the _____ of Jesus before His return.
 - 2) It brought to the apostles the _____ they needed for their special role as his primary and authoritative witnesses.
 - 3) It was the beginning of the new era of the Spirit, the inauguration of the _____. Although the Spirit's coming was a unique and unrepeatable historical event, all the people of God can now always and everywhere benefit from his ministry.
 - 4) It was the _____ of the Church.
 - A New _____ in which God would dwell (Eph. 2:21-22)
 - A New _____ in which Christ would continue his ministry on earth (1 Cor. 12:13)
 - A New _____: learning, loving, worshiping, witnessing (Acts 2:42-47)

D. The Status of the Newly-Formed Church (2:42-47)

Progress Report #1: "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved" (2:47).

Application: Our role as Spirit-empowered witnesses.

- A. We are to pass along _____ truth (Acts. 2:42; 8:4)
- B. We are to pass along what we know of the Risen Christ (Acts 4:20)
- C. We are to participate in the corporate witness of the Body of Christ through faithful ministry within the community (Acts 2:42-47).