

Acts Chapter 1

1. The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

A. The former account I made,

1. **former-** Gr. **protos-** *first*
2. **account-** Gr. **logos-** *word, account, discourse*
 - a. This is the book of Luke which is also addressed to Theophilus. [Luk 1:3](#)
3. **made-** Gr. **poieo**
 - a. The author is Luke. He probably was a Greek, which would make him the only non-Jewish man to write scripture. He was a doctor that accompanied Paul on his travels.

B. O Theophilus,

1. **Theophilus-** means *friend of God*
 - a. *Theophilus might have been a Christian wanting instruction. He might have been a Roman official being briefed by Luke about the history of the Christian movement; or the name could be symbolic, because the name **Theophilus** means "God-lover."* David Guzik Commentary

C. of all that Jesus began both to do and teach

1. **began-** Gr. **archomai-** *to make a beginning*
 - a. The book of Luke was a record of what Jesus **BEGAN** to do and teach until He was taken up into Heaven. This does not mean that Jesus has stopped doing and teaching, He is just doing and teaching now through His body- the church.
2. **do-** Gr. **poieo**
 - a. He healed, cast out devils, and ministered to needs of the masses.
3. **teach-** Gr. **didasko**
 - a. He both taught His disciples and the multitudes.
 - b. This is what Jesus wants to continue to do through us the Church- 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,

A. until the day in which He was taken up,

1. **day**- Gr. *hemera*

2. **taken up**- Gr. *analambano*- *received up, take up*

a. This is not Jesus going up of His own accord but being taken up and received by the Father.

B. after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles who He had chosen

1. **through the Holy Spirit**

a. After the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit is the main agent of action upon the earth for the Trinity. We see here His first work of ministry to the young church- giving power and imparting the words of Jesus to the hearts of His followers.

b. *The Holy Spirit is now the agent and executive of God in earth to carry on the work that Jesus "began both to do and teach" - Finis Dake*

2. **given commandments**- Gr. *entellomai*- *to order, command to be done, enjoin, direct*

a. This is the particular commands pertaining to the Great Commission. [Mat 28:19-20](#), [Mar 16:15-19](#)

3. **apostles**- Gr. *apostolos*

4. **chosen**- Gr. *eklegomai*- *to choose out*

a. He spoke to the apostles that HE had chosen. The disciples at Peter's direction had selected Matthias. Jesus did not choose him. I believe the Lord's replacement for Judas was not Matthias, but Paul. Paul compared himself to the apostles of Jesus and said he was one born out of due time. [1 Cor. 15:8](#) He said he was the least of the apostles. He said this in connection to the other 11 apostles [disciples] of Jesus.

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.

A. to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs,

1. **presented**- Gr. *paristemi*- *to present a person for another to see, commend to the attention*

2. **alive**- Gr. *zao*

a. *He did this by appearing to several different persons at different times. His eating and drinking with them. His meeting them in Galilee according to His own appointment. His subjecting His body to be touched and handled by them. His instructing them in the nature and doctrines of His kingdom and His appearing to upwards of five hundred persons at once.* [1Co 15:6](#). - Adam Clarke Commentary

3. suffering- Gr. **pascho**

a. This suffering covered the time from the Garden of Gethsemane to the final breath He breathed on the cross.

4. infallible proofs- Gr. **tekmerion-** *a fixed sign, proof, end, limit, goal, token, to prove by sure signs*

a. Such as having Thomas put his finger inside the nail prints of His hands and feel the opening where the sword was thrust into His side. Also, He appeared to 500 people at one time. If He only appeared to one person at a time, then their recollection or recounting of the story can be brought into question, but not 500 people at the same time!

B. being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God

1. seen- Gr. **optanomai**

a. He was seen with the natural eyes of many.

2. forty days- Gr. **tessarakonta**

a. During these forty days there are no less than thirteen different appearances recorded of Jesus to His disciples.

b. The number forty in the Bible is a time of testing. These forty days after Jesus was raised from the dead was a testing or proving of His actual resurrection. If Jesus did not prove this by staying on the earth for forty days after He was raised, then strong speculation would have gathered momentum that someone had stolen Jesus's body out of the tomb. During these forty days Jesus proved His resurrection by many infallible proofs. I believe also this was a testing time for His followers to see if they would believe that He was raised from the dead and keep following Him. Jesus appeared to 500 but only 120 was there on the day of Pentecost. Where did the rest go?

3. speaking- Gr. **lego**

a. He not only was seen, but also heard. He continued His teaching ministry.

4. kingdom- Gr. basileia

a. Jesus began His earthly ministry proclaiming the Kingdom of God, and now He is finishing His earthly ministry with the same theme. Jesus came to establish a kingdom not a democracy!

b. His spiritual kingdom is being established now through the church. [Luke 17:21](#) Upon His physical return to the earth Jesus will set up His millennial reign and then the eternal kingdom of God will be in the renewed earth.

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.

A. And being assembled together with them,

1. **assembled together-** Gr. **sunalizo-** *to cause to come together, collect, assemble, congregate*

a. It is always safer to be a part of a company of believers than to remain alone. God did not visit individuals of the early church in their own homes. No, He visited them when they were assembled together. [Acts 2:1](#), [Acts 4:31](#)

B. He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem,

1. **commanded-** Gr. **paraggello-** *to transmit a command, order, charge*

2. **depart-** Gr. **chorizo-** *to separate, divide, part, put asunder, to separate one's self from, to depart*

a. They were not commanded to not depart from Jerusalem period. No, they were told do not depart from Jerusalem without the promise of the Father. Jesus had commanded them to go out into all the world and preach the gospel, but before they left, they needed the promise of the Holy Spirit upon them to do it.

3. **Jerusalem-** means *habitation of double peace*

a. Do not leave the habitation of peace without the presence of the Holy Spirit upon you. Once you depart with Him upon you, you will take that double peace with you wherever you go.

C. but to wait for the Promise of the Father,

1. **wait-** Gr. **perimeno-** *to remain around*

a. Today we would translate this in modern English as "stick around".

2. **promise-** Gr. **epaggelia-** *to pronounce upon*

a. What were they waiting for? This is the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is not the promise of the new birth, but the promise of the baptism in the Holy Spirit. In the new birth we have the Holy Spirit in us, but in the baptism of the Holy Spirit He comes upon us for service. This promise is the same as being endued [clothed upon] with power from on high.

[Luk 24:49](#)

b. They were not waiting for the new birth or the indwelling of the Spirit. Jesus had already previously blown upon them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit". They were born again right there just as God breathed into Adam and He was given life right then. How do we know Jesus in this verse is referring to the baptism of the Holy Spirit and not the indwelling of the Holy Spirit at salvation? Jesus says so in the next verse. He says you will be **baptized** in the Holy Spirit! In the next verse we will look at the difference between the work of the Holy Spirit for salvation and the baptism of the Holy Spirit for service.

c. It is important to know that we are not to wait or tarry for the Holy Spirit now. They tarried because the Spirit had not yet been poured out. Once He had been poured out into the earth, we just need to receive this promised gift by faith. Tarry not but believe and receive right now!

d. *The Holy Spirit, which indeed was the grand promise of the New Testament, as Jesus Christ was of the Old.* -Clarke Commentary

3. **Father-** Gr. **pater**

D. **which He said,**

E. **you have heard of Me**

1. **heard-** Gr. **akouo**

a. Jesus had previously shared that the Holy Spirit would be given and what His ministries would entail. [Luk 24:49](#); [Joh 14:16](#), [Joh 14:26](#); [Joh 15:26](#); [Joh 16:7](#), [Joh 16:13](#)

b. We see the Trinity in this verse- **The Promise** [Holy Spirit] of **the Father**, you heard of **Me [Jesus]**.

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

A. for John truly baptized with water,

1. **John**- means *God's gracious gift*

2. **baptized**- Gr. **baptizo**- *to dip or immerse*

a. This baptism was for repentance. This did not save anyone. Repentance in itself does not save someone. Faith in Jesus Christ saves someone. However, you need to repent [Gr. **metanoia**- change your mind] before you can believe upon Christ.

3. **water**- Gr. **huder**

a. This water baptism was a forerunner demonstration of what would happen when believers accepted Jesus. [Luk 3:16](#)

B. but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now

1. **with the Holy Spirit**- Gr. **en hagios pneuma**- *in the Holy Spirit*

a. Some confuse this with the baptism into Christ at salvation. These are two totally different baptisms. The baptism into Christ comes at the time when someone places their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior. At this time, the Spirit will baptize a believer into Christ's body and they are born again. This baptism spoken of in this verse is different. With this baptism Jesus baptizes an already born-again individual into the Holy Spirit. In these two different baptisms the person doing the baptizing and who they are baptized into is different. The first baptism the Spirit is the baptizer and Christ is being baptized into. [1Co 12:13](#) The other baptism is Jesus doing the baptizing and the Holy Spirit is being baptized into. [Mar 1:8](#)

b. **1Co 12:13** For **by one Spirit** [the baptizer] we were all **baptized into one body** [who is being baptized into- body of Christ]—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

c. **Joh 1:33** I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is **He [Jesus] who baptizes** [the baptizer] **with the Holy Spirit** [who is being baptized into].'

d. The baptism into Christ brings the indwelling Holy Spirit who creates a well of water that springs up to everlasting life. A well is for private purposes. The baptism in the Holy Spirit causes rivers of water to come out of you to bless others.

e. In the baptism into Christ, the Spirit comes inside you for personal salvation. In the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the Spirit comes upon you for service. [Acts 2:3-4](#), [Acts 10:44-46](#), [Acts 19:6](#)

2. days- Gr. **hemera**

a. This would be 10 days in the future which would be 50 days after Jesus' was raised from the dead. This would be on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost means 50.

3. now- Gr. **nun**

a. This "now" was at the end of the forty days Jesus had spent on the earth after His resurrection.

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

A. Therefore,

1. Their question arose because Jesus brought up the giving of the Holy Spirit.

2. *The disciples had been thinking about the coming of the Spirit. They remembered that the prophet Joel spoke of the outpouring of the Spirit in connection with the Messiah's glorious reign.*

([Joel 2:28-32](#)). Believer's Bible Commentary

B. when they had come together,

1. come together- Gr. **sunerchomai**

a. This was at the Mount of Olives.

C. they asked Him saying,

1. **asked-** Gr. **eperotao-** *to accost one with an enquiry, put a question to, enquiry of, ask, interrogate*

a. This word is in the present tense which means they were repeatedly asking Him.

2. saying- Gr. **lego**

D. Lord will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?

1. Lord- Gr. **kurios**

a. This was in recognition of His divinity.

2. **time-** Gr. **chronos-** *time, whether in respect of duration or a definite point of its lapse*

a. God has created times and seasons. [vs. 7](#) This is true of His macro plan for His creation and this is true of us individually.

3. **restore-** Gr. **apokathistemi-** *to restore a thing to its former place or state*

a. *The kingdom had been for some time taken away from the Jews, Judea was reduced to a Roman province, and was now actually under the power of a Roman governor. And the nation in general was in great expectation, that upon the Messiah's coming they should be delivered from the yoke of the Romans, and that the son of David would be king over them. The disciples of Christ had imbibed the same notions, and were in the same expectation of a temporal kingdom to be set up by their master, as is evident from [Mat 20:21](#) and though His sufferings and death had greatly damped their spirits, and almost destroyed their hopes, see [Luk 24:21](#) yet His resurrection from the dead, and His discoursing with them about the kingdom of God, and ordering them to wait at Jerusalem, the metropolis of that nation, for something extraordinary, revived their hopes, and emboldened them to put this question to him.* - Gill Commentary

4. **kingdom-** Gr. **basileia**

a. Unknown to these early disciples of Jesus was that God had a mystery of the church age he would bring in and suspend Jewish time.

b. In the prophecy of Daniel's 70 weeks, 490 years was given for the nation of Israel from the time of the decree to rebuild Jerusalem until the end of His dealing with them in His redemptive plan for that nation. It was related to Daniel that Messiah would come and get cut off after 69 weeks. Then the last week the Anti-Christ would make a pact with Israel and break it in the middle. This speaks of the 7-year Tribulation period. However, the Tribulation is still future. Where in this is the present church age we are in now? God suspended Jewish time after Jesus was crucified and inserted the mystery- the church. Once the fulness of the Gentiles come in and the

church is raptured, then the last 7 years of Jewish time will continue in the Tribulation.

5. **Israel**- means *prince with God*

a. God is not done with the nation of Israel. The church did not replace Israel. We got grafted into Israel. The true Israel of God is all those who believe in the Messiah, both Jew and Gentile.

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."**

A. **And He said to them,**

1. **said**- Gr. *epo*

B. **It is not for you to know the times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority**

1. **know**- Gr. *ginosko*- *to know progressively or by relationship*

a. There are many things God wants us to know. There are some other things, however, He does not want us to know. A problem arises when we apply ourselves to know something God says it is not for us to know. One such thing we are not to know is the exact time of Jesus's return, however, many have applied themselves to decipher when this is and have made predictions. Some have even written books on it. These books are growing dust on them because Jesus did not come back when they predicted. Jesus plainly said, *"But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father"* ([Mat 24:36](#))

b. *"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever"* ([Deu 29:29](#)).

2. **times**- Gr. *chronos*- *time, whether in respect of duration or a definite point of its lapse*

3. **seasons**- Gr. *kairos*- *fitness, proportion, suitability; a fitting situation, suitable place, a limited period of time marked by a suitability of circumstances, a fitting season, opportunity, a limited period of time marked by characteristic circumstances, a signal juncture, a marked season, a destined time, a season in ordinary succession, in NT a limited time, a short season.*

a. Times are points in time and seasons are periods of time.

4. **put**- Gr. *tithemi*- *to place*

a. The Lord put some things in His own authority and with other things He has put authority in the hands of others.

[Matt. 28:18-20](#), [Luke 10:19](#), [Rom. 13:1](#)

5. **authority**- Gr. *exousia*- *the right to act, the right to use might*

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."**

A. **But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;**

1. **But**

a. Jesus told them in respect to the timing of His Kingdom being set up on earth they were not being given knowledge [it is not for you to know] or authority [the Father has put in His own authority]. **BUT** they would be receiving something else. They would be receiving **POWER** for the present!

b. Many focus on gaining knowledge and exercising authority but they lack the power of the Spirit. I think the church of Jesus Christ is right here. They have more knowledge than any generation of Christians. They understand their authority in Christ. However, what they know and the authority they have are being frustrated because of a lack of power.

c. The early church received the Holy Spirit and began to speak with tongues. This was the conduit to receive the power of the Spirit. Many Christians can speak in tongues, but few do it and fewer still do it a whole lot. This is key to keeping full of the Holy Spirit and His power. [Eph. 5:18](#)

d. Many call themselves "Spirit-filled" Christians. This means they have been baptized in the Holy Spirit and can speak with tongues. However, most are not "Spirit-filled" at the moment! They are empty at the moment because they stopped praying in the Spirit. We need to stay full of the Holy Spirit because we leak!

e. Many Christians want to do the right spiritual things, but they lack the spiritual power to do them, **because spiritual actions can only be accomplished by spiritual power**. Many Christians do not have the power to blow the fuzz off of a

peach.

f. Just like if you have the finest sportscar in the world, but if it has a dead battery, it is not going anywhere. You can turn the key to get it to do something and all you hear is click, click, click. Many Christians are trying to serve the Lord and all they hear is click, click, click. They need to be charged up with the power of God. This comes by praying in the Spirit- A LOT!

2. receive- Gr. **lambano**

a. This power of the Holy Spirit is a gift of grace, not something earned through works or personal merit. It is not achieved, it is received!

b. Jesus left the church spiritual power through the gift of the Holy Spirit and then left. Are we operating in this power to do what He called us to do?

3. power- Gr. **dunamis**

a. Not political power as the disciples were seeking from Jesus, but spiritual power. Today many Christians are concerned about gaining political power but show little concern for having spiritual power.

b. This power was first given on the day of Pentecost. On this day, the church received the power through speaking in tongues. Today, this is the same way we are to receive the power of God. You do not just receive power once. If so, why did Paul pray for the Ephesians, who had received the Holy Spirit baptism and spoke in tongues, that they be strengthened in their inner man? No, we need to stay filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and we do that through praying in tongues daily. The Word of God brings knowledge and praying in the Spirit brings power. We need both to be effective in the time we are living in, Christian.

4. come upon- Gr. **eperchomai**

a. This is the baptism in the Holy Spirit. In salvation, the Spirit **indwells** a believer. In the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the Spirit **comes upon** a believer. The first is for personal salvation, but the latter is for service of others.

B. and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem,

1. be witnesses- Gr. **martus-** *those who after his example have*

proved the strength and genuineness of their faith in Christ

a. Notice, it says we shall receive power to **BE WITNESSES** not merely do witnessing. Giving verbal witness is a part of being a witness but being a witness deals with much more than witnessing. It is living out a life of power and fruit for all to see. It is a witness of the supernatural to a natural world. Many Christians are witnessing but are actually being an extremely poor witness due to their fleshly lifestyle and lack of spiritual power.

b. You can be a martyr by dying or be a living martyr. Being a living martyr is harder than being a dying one. It takes spiritual power to be a living martyr- a living sacrifice. [Rom. 12:1](#)

2. **to Me**- this should read *of me*.

a. We do not need to witness to Jesus. He is already saved!

3. **Jerusalem**- means *city of double peace*

C. and in all Judea and Samaria,

1. **Judea**- means *He shall be praised*

2. **Samaria**- means *watch mountain*

D. and to the end of the earth

1. **end**- Gr. **eschatos**

2. **earth**- Gr. **ge**

a. This is the Great Commission. This commission is also found in the gospels as Jesus' last words to His disciples. It is sad, but we are still to accomplish this directive.

9. Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

A. Now when He had spoken these things,

1. **spoken**- Gr. **epo**

B. while they watched,

1. **watched**- Gr. **blepo**

C. He was taken up,

1. **taken up**- Gr. **epairo**- *lifted up*

a. In all instances where man is brought into heaven, it says they were taken up or caught up. We must be invited and taken up into heaven.

D. and a cloud received Him out of their sight

1. **cloud**- Gr. **nephele**

a. This could have been a natural cloud, but I believe it was a spiritual cloud of the Shekinah Glory or the cloud of witnesses of OT saints mentioned in the book of Hebrews. [Heb. 12:1](#)

b. When we enter into heaven we will be received and welcomed by those who have gone on before us.

2. **received**- Gr. **hupolambano**- *to receive hospitably, welcome*

a. This word means to be received hospitably and welcomed. This is why I think this is a cloud of witnesses that is spoken of in this verse.

3. **sight**- Gr. **ophthalmos**

a. This word means to see with the natural eyes. Jesus disappeared from natural sight and went into the spirit realm.

10. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel,

A. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up,

1. **looked steadfastly**- Gr. **entizo**- *to fix one's eyes upon, look steadily, gaze intently, stare*

a. It is good to keep our eyes on Jesus, but we need to also be about the business we were assigned from Him.

2. **heaven**- Gr. **ouranos**

3. **went up**- Gr. **poreuo**- *depart, journey away*

B. behold- Gr. **idou**

C. two men stood by them in white apparel

1. **two**- Gr. **duo**

a. Two is the number of witness. The disciples and these two angels witnessed the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ into heaven.

2. **men**- Gr. **aner**- *any male*

a. These two were angels and not men. This should be translated two males. If they were human men, then the Greek word **anthropos** would have been utilized which would mean they were human. The word **aner** was used which means they were male. Angels are always seen in the masculine in the Word of God.

3. **stood**- Gr. **peristemi**- *to stand around*

4. **white**- Gr. **leukos**

a. Angels wear white garments. [Mat 28:3](#),
[Mar 16:5](#), [Joh 20:12](#)

b. Angels can appear in physical form and look like other human men. We are told to be careful because we could entertain angels unaware. [Heb. 13:2](#), [Act 10:30](#)

5. **apparel**- Gr. **esthes**- *clothing, raiment, 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."

A. who also said,

1. **said**- Gr. **epo**

B. Men of Galilee,

1. **men**- Gr. **aner**- *males*

a. These were natural human males not angelic males.

2. **Galilee**- means *wheel or circuit*

a. Jesus went all around the circuit of Galilee ministering. [Matt. 4:23](#)

b. *As far as we know, all the disciples except Judas Iscariot came from the region west of the Sea of Galilee.* - Believer's Bible Commentary

C. why do you stand gazing into heaven,

1. **stand**- Gr. **histemi**

2. **gazing up**- Gr. **emblepo**- *to direct a glance, to look searchingly*

3. **heaven**- Gr. **ouranos**

a. We are told in Colossians to set our minds on the things above where Christ sits at the right hand of the Father. However, we are to be about the business of the kingdom while we do this.

b. I find this a bit humorous. All these guys are staring up at the sky and they had no idea two angels were standing with them.

D. This same Jesus,

1. **same**- Gr. **houtos**- *this one*

a. We are awaiting the very same Jesus that left 2000 years ago. Why is this mentioned? It is because many that have come and have said they are Jesus Christ come back to earth, but they are not the same person who left the earth.

E. who was taken up from you into heaven,

1. **taken up**- Gr. **analambano**

F. will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven

1. **come**- Gr. **erchomai**

2. **like manner**- Gr. **hos tropos**- *that fashion, way, manner*

a. Jesus left the Mt. of Olives and was taken up into a cloud. He will return to the exact same place the Mt. of Olives. [Zec 14:4](#)
He will come back in the clouds. [Matt. 24:30](#)

b. If someone comes and says they are Christ, do not believe him. Christ will come back in the clouds of heaven and all will know it when He arrives. This is speaking of His Second Advent, when He comes to set up His reign on earth. This is not when He comes back to get the church and takes them back to heaven with Him.

c. Those deceived by false Christs do not know the Word of God.

3. **saw**- Gr. **theaomai**- *to behold, look upon, view attentively, contemplate (often used of public shows)*

a. Jesus being taken up into heaven was a public event where many eyes saw it. However, only believers saw it.

4. **go**- Gr. **poreuomai**

12. Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey.

A. Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet,

1. **returned**- Gr. **hupostrepho**- *to turn back*

2. **Jerusalem**- means *city of double peace*

3. **called**- Gr. **kaleo**

4. **Olivet**- means *place of olives*

a. The olive and its oil are types of the Holy Spirit. Jerusalem which means double peace is near the anointing! Likewise, the anointing is near to our peace we have in Christ. The Holy Spirit was not given until Jesus paid for our sins and reconciled us back to God. The anointing is available based upon the finished work of Christ.

B. which is near Jerusalem,

1. **near**- Gr. **eggus**- *near as to a place*

a. The Mount of Olives is about 3/4 miles from Jerusalem.

C. a Sabbath day's journey

1. **Sabbath day's**- Gr. **Sabbaton**- *the seventh day of each week which was a sacred festival on which the Israelites were required to abstain from all work*

2. **journey**- Gr. **hodos**- *a traveler's way, journey, travelling*

a. *As far as might be lawfully traveled by a Jew on the Sabbath. This was 2,000 paces or cubits, or seven furlongs and a half - not quite one mile. See the notes On [Mat 24:20](#). The distance of a lawful journey on the Sabbath was not fixed by the laws of Moses, but the Jewish teachers had fixed it at 2,000 paces. This measure was determined on because it was a tradition that in the camp of the Israelites, when coming from Egypt, no part of the camp was more than 2000 paces from the tabernacle, and over this space, therefore, they were permitted to travel for worship. - Barnes Commentary*

b. A sabbath day's journey is a little under a mile in length.

13. And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James *the son* of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas *the son* of James.

A. And when they had entered,

1. **entered**- Gr. **eiserchomai**

a. When they entered Jerusalem.

B. they went up into the upper room where they were staying:

1. **went up**- Gr. **anabaino**

a. The disciples entered the abode and then went up. We must first enter in before we go up. We enter into Christ and then we go up by revelation into what God has for us. We need to enter into the realm of the Spirit and then we then we go up.

2. **upper room**- Gr. **huperoon**- *the upper part of a house, upper room, or chamber*

a. Likely this was where Jesus shared the last supper with His disciples. In that account it says they were in a large upper room. This would have to be large to house 120 disciples on the day of Pentecost.

3. **staying-** Gr. **en katameno-** *to remain permanently*

a. It appears that the disciples had been staying together in a large house.

C. **Peter-** means *rock*

D. **James-** means *supplanter*

E. **John-** means *God's gift*

a. These three- Peter, James, and John were Jesus' inner circle and were present during his most intimate times of ministry.

F. **and Andrew-** means *manly*

G. **Philip and Thomas**

1. **Philip-** means *lover of horses*

2. **Thomas-** means *a twin*

H. **Bartholomew and Matthew**

1. **Bartholomew-** means *son of Tolmai*

a. He was also called Nathaniel. Jesus said he had no guile in him.

2. **Matthew-** means *gift of Jehovah*

I. **James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot**

1. **James**

a. He was also called James "the less" to distinguish him from James, John's brother.

2. **son-** not in Greek- omit

3. **Alphaeus-** means *changing*

4. **Simon-** means *rock*

5. **Zealot-** Gr. **zelotes-** one burning with zeal

J. **and Judas the son of James**

1. **Judas-** means *he shall be praised*

a. He was also known by the name Thaddaeus

b. Of course, Judas Iscariot is missing from this list because he killed himself after betraying Jesus.

14. **These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.**

A. **These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication,**

1. **continued-** Gr. **en proskatereo-** *to persist in adherence to a thing; to be intently engaged in, attend constantly to, in earnest endeavor*

a. This does not say "started". It says "continued". How we

need to hear this word. We need to continue to seek the Lord with passion and ardor.

2. **one accord**- Gr. **homothumadon**- *same passion and ardor*
 - a. We need to associate with other believers that have the same passion and ardor for the Lord.
 - b. This continued up until the day they were baptized in the Holy Spirit. [Act 2:1](#)
3. **prayer**- Gr. **proseuche**
 - a. This word means to have intimate communion with the Lord. This includes worship, praise, and thanksgiving.
4. **supplication**- Gr. **deesis**- *requests*
 - a. We should have intimacy with the Lord before we ask requests of Him. Requests should be on the foundation of relationship. If we continually ask someone for things but do not seek to have a relationship with them, it becomes inappropriate. Many Christians are asking things from God but are not seeking a relationship with Him. This is not appropriate.

B. with the women and Mary, the mother of Jesus,

1. **women**- Gr. **gune**- *wife or woman*
 - a. These are probably the wives of the disciples.
 - b. They could have been the women who ministered to Jesus from their substance during His ministry. Among these were Mary Magdalene the [Mat 27:55-56](#)
2. **Mary**- means *tear*
3. **mother**- Gr. **meter**
 - a. Mary knew Jesus was the Son of God from the beginning.
 - b. Mary was not immaculate. She was a sinner that needed salvation like all others. She is not a mediator between us and Jesus.
 - c. Many worship Mary. However, if she were here today, she would say the same thing she said during Jesus' earthly ministry- whatever He says to you, do it!
 - d. If you really want to follow Mary, then you need to believe on Jesus Christ and then receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues!

C. and with His brothers

1. brothers- Gr. adelphos

- a. His brothers did not believe in Jesus during His earthly ministry. [Joh 7:5](#) At some point they were convinced of who Jesus was and of His resurrection. This would include James and Jude. Both would write a book of the Bible.
- b. It was prophesied in the OT that Jesus would become a stranger to His brothers, and an alien to His mother's children [stepbrothers] [Ps. 69:8](#)

15. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples (altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty), and said,

A. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples

1. days- Gr. hemera

- a. These were the days of waiting in Jerusalem after Jesus left the earth until the day of Pentecost. This was 10 days.

2. Peter

- a. The main character in the first part of Acts is Peter. Then it will switch to Stephen, Philip, and then Paul.

3. stood up- Gr. anistemi

- a. Peter was never one for inaction. The waiting must have been killing him. He felt he needed to get up and lead this group. He was about to do something Jesus never told him to do, which was select a replacement for Judas.

4. disciples- Gr. mathetes

B. altogether the number of names was about a hundred and twenty,

1. number- Gr. ochlos- a crowd

- a. We are not just faces in a crowd. The Lord knows each of us.

2. names- Gr. onoma

- a. I think it is important that Luke did not just say, "the number was about hundred and twenty". He said, "the number of NAMES were about a hundred and twenty". I am so glad God knows all His children by name. God does not see us as a mere number, but as a person He personally knows.

3. hundred and twenty- Gr. hekaton eikosi

- a. It is interesting that Jesus appeared after His resurrection to 500 of his followers, however, only 120 of them were there on the day of Pentecost. What happened to the other 380? Many

will start but will not continue to follow the Lord although they have believed.

C. and said,

1. said- Gr. **epo**

a. When Peter did not know what he was saying, he did not let that stop him! [Luke 9:33](#)

16. "Men *and* brethren, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus;

A. Men and brethren,

1. Men- Gr. **aner-** *males*

2. brethren- Gr. **adelphos**

a. Peter seems to exclude the women in his address. It was not customary that women be mixed in a gathering with men. The New Covenant changed this. It would take time for old customs to change.

B. this Scripture had to be fulfilled,

1. Scripture- Gr. **graphe**

a. [Psa 69:25](#); [Psa 109:8](#)

b. This scripture says let another take his office. It does not say let another be chosen by lots. Peter added that.

2. fulfilled- Gr. **pleroo**

a. All Scripture must and will be fulfilled from Genesis to the last words of Revelation. Much of the Word of God has been fulfilled already, but some is still yet to be fulfilled.

C. which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas,

1. spoke before- Gr. **proepo**

2. mouth- Gr. **stoma**

a. This speaks of the ministry of the Word. The Holy Spirit speaks by our mouth. [1 Cor. 2:13](#)

b. If it is just us speaking, not much will be accomplished. However, if the Spirit of God speaks by our mouth, much will be done.

3. David- means *God's gift*

a. David was a prophet.

4. **Judas**- means *He shall be praised*

D. who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus

1. **guide**- Gr. **hodegos**- *leader*

- a. Judas did not just follow evil but ended up leading in it.
Those who continue to follow evil, will end up leading in it.

2. **arrested**- Gr. **sullambano**- *to catch; to seize, apprehend*

17. for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry."

A. **numbered**- Gr. **katarithmeo**- *to enumerate, number with, count with*

- 1. Jesus knew from the beginning who would betray Him. [John 6:64](#)
He still chose Judas.

B. **obtained**- Gr. **lagchano**- *to obtain by lot*

- 1. This word means to obtain by lot. Peter must have taken this to mean his replacement would be chosen by lot.

C. **a part**- Gr. **kleros**- *what is obtained by lot, allotted portion*

- 1. We know that Jesus did not chose Judas by casting lots. It says Jesus prayed all night before selecting the disciples. [Luke 6:12-13](#)
- 2. This is how Judas' replacement should have been selected after the Holy Spirit was poured out - by prayer and revelation. I believe Paul was the replacement for Judas. [1 Cor. 15:8](#)

D. **ministry**- Gr. **diakonia**

- 1. Ministry means service. Judas never had a servant's heart. He was in the ministry for what he could get out of it.
- 2. It is amazing that Judas had been given authority to operate in the power of God- healing and casting out spirits, but still went the wrong way. [Mat 10:1-4](#), [Mar 3:14-15](#) The same thing can happen to us.

18. (Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out.

A. **Now this man purchased a field with the wages of iniquity;**

1. **this man**- Gr. **houtos**- *this one*

2. **purchased**- Gr. **ptaomai**- *to acquire, get, or procure a thing for one's self, to possess*

- a. It was purchased for thirty pieces of silver. This was the amount a slave was sold for.

3. **field**- Gr. **chorion**

a. Peter's account of the purchase of the land and the death of Judas appears to contradict the record in [Mat 27:3-10](#); but actually, it complements it. Judas did not buy the field personally, but since it was his money that paid for it, in that sense, he was the buyer. And, since the thirty pieces of silver were considered "blood money," the field was called "the field of blood" ([Mat 27:8](#)). It was not Judas' blood that gave the field its name, for the Jews would not use as a sacred cemetery a place that had been defiled by a suicide. -BBC

b. This field was called the potter's field and the field of blood. It was purchased with 30 pieces of silver. It was prophesied that Jesus would be betrayed with 30 pieces of silver. [Zech 11:13](#)

c. The money to betray Jesus - His purchase price - went to buy a potter's field ([Mat 27:7](#)). A potter's field was a piece of useless land where he threw his broken, damaged, and rejected pots. Jesus really did purchase the potter's field - the place where broken, rejected, and useless people like us are scattered. -Guizik Commentary

4. **wages**- Gr. **misthos**- *dues paid for work*

a. This was payment for betraying Jesus and leading the authorities to where He was.

5. **iniquity**- Gr. **adikia**- *unrighteousness*

a. This is the height of wickedness. The punishment for betraying Jesus would be extremely high. Therefore, Jesus said it was better that Judas not ever been born. [Matt](#)

[26:24](#)

B. and falling headlong,

1. **falling**- Gr. **ginomai**

2. **headlong**- Gr. *prone, head-foremost*

a. Judas hanged himself, and apparently the rope broke and his body (possibly already distended) burst open when it hit the ground. -BBC

b. Judas face-planted on the rocks below.

C. he burst open in the middle and all his entrails gushed out

1. **burst open**- Gr. **lakao**- *to burst asunder with a crack, crack open*

2. **middle**- Gr. **mesos**

3. **entrails**- Gr. **splangnon**

4. **gushed out**- Gr. **ekcheo**- *pour out*

- a. It is possible that Judas was still alive when the rope broke that he had hung himself with. If he were alive when his guts spilled out it would have been a horrendously painful death.

19. **And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem; so that field is called in their own language, Akel Dama, that is, Field of Blood.)**

A. **And it became known to all those dwelling in Jerusalem;**

1. **became**- Gr. **ginomai**

2. **known**- Gr. **gnostos**- *known, notable*

- a. You do not want to be known for infamy.

3. **dwelling**- Gr. **katoikeo**

4. **Jerusalem**- means *city of double peace*

B. **so that field is called in their own language,**

1. **field**- Gr. **chorion**

- a. This field is situated about halfway down the ravine between mount Zion and the Hill of Evil Counsel, on the side of the hill, and south of Jerusalem. -UTSK

2. **called**- Gr. **kaleo**

3. **language**- Gr. **dialektos** - *dialect, the tongue or language peculiar to any people*

- a. Luke says, "their own language". Luke is a Gentile and not a Jew, so he did not say "the" language or "our" language but says "their" language.

C. **Akel Dama**- means *field of blood*

1. This is Aramaic

D. **that is field of blood**

1. **blood**- Gr. **aima**

- a. It is called this because it was sold for the life blood of Jesus Christ.

20. **"For it is written in the Book of Psalms: 'LET HIS DWELLING PLACE BE DESOLATE, AND LET NO ONE LIVE IN IT'; and, 'LET ANOTHER TAKE HIS OFFICE.'**

A. **For it is written in the Book of Psalms:**

1. **written**- Gr. **grapho**

2. **Book**- Gr. **biblos**

3. **Psalms**- Gr. **psalmos**- *striking the chords of a musical instrument, a*

song accompanied by music

a. [Ps. 69:25](#)

B. Let his dwelling place be desolate,

1. **dwelling place-** Gr. **epaulus-** *cottage, farm-building, a country-house*

a. Apparently, Judas owned a farm or a country residence. The Hebrew word for in the OT passage which this NT passage is taken from means a piece of land that is enclosed by a fence or wall.

2. **desolate-** Gr. **eremos-** *wilderness, desert*

C. and let no one live in it,

1. **live-** Gr. **katoikeo-** *to dwell*

D. and let another take his office

1. **take-** Gr. **lambano**

2. **office-** Gr. **episkope-** *overseer ship, office, charge, the office of an elder*

a. I believe Paul was the replacement for Judas. Judas could have had a large missionary call on his life and could have been used to write the revelation that belongs to the church that was given to Paul. Besides betraying the Son of God, Judas has to contemplate this throughout eternity about how he could have been used by the Lord.

21. "Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

A. Therefore,

1. Peter just finished quoting what God had said, and now he errs by adding his own "therefore". Have you ever added your own "therefore" to the Word of God? This is not good.

B. of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us

1. **men-** Gr. **aner**

a. Peter will now establish a standard for choosing a new apostle. Nowhere does it say God told him this or even to select another apostle. Jesus did not tell the disciples to go to the upper room and cast lots for a new apostle. He said go to Jerusalem and wait for the promise [the Holy Spirit] of the Father.

b. Often we will get into works while we wait for God's promise.

2. **accompanied-** Gr. **sunerchomai-** *to come together*

a. There were a wider number of disciples than just the 12. We see Jesus sending out 70. [Luke 10:1](#)

3. **time-** Gr. **chronos**

a. Three years during His earthly ministry

4. **went in-** Gr. **eiserchomai-** *to come in*

a. We often think the opposite in this regard. We think of going out and coming in. The Scripture says, coming in and going out. [Deut. 28:6](#)

5. **out-** Gr. **exerchomai-** *to go out*

a. There are sometimes that Jesus went out from the disciples and did things without them.

22. beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection."

A. beginning from the baptism of John to the that day when He was taken up from us,

1. **beginning-** Gr. **archomai**

a. This commenced the three-year ministry of Jesus.

2. **baptism-** Gr. **baptizo-** *to be immersed*

3. **John-** means *God's gift*

a. This means from the baptism that John performed on Jesus.

4. **day-** Gr. **hemera**

a. This was forty days after His resurrection.

5. **taken up-** Gr. **analambano**

B. one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection

1. **one of these must**

a. Who said? Peter said.

2. **witness-** Gr. **martus**

3. **resurrection-** Gr. **anastasis**

a. The apostles of the Lamb, the disciples of Jesus during His earthly ministry, gave witness that Jesus was raised from the dead by an eye-witness account but also by performing miracles in His name subsequently in their ministries proving

His resurrection. [1Co 15:3-8](#), [Acts 4:33](#)

23. And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

A. And they proposed two:

1. **proposed-** Gr. *histemi*- *to cause or make to stand, to place, put, set, to set or place in a balance*

2. **two-** Gr. *duo*

a. These two were selected and put into a spiritual balance to determine who the Lord would choose.

b. They chose two, but I believe there was a third choice they never gave God an option to choose.

c. Often, we give two different things for the Lord to give us direction on, but there was another one never presented which was God's choice.

B. Joseph called Barsabas,

1. **Joseph-** means *addition or increase*

2. **Barsabas-** means *son of rest*

C. who was surnamed Justus,

1. **surnamed-** Gr. *epikaleomi*- *to attach an additional name, to surname*

2. **Justus-** means *just*

D. and Matthias

1. **Matthias-** means *gift of God*

a. We never hear of Matthias again after he is selected by lots to replace Judas.

24. And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen"

A. And they prayed and said,

1. **prayed-** Gr. *proseuchomai*

a. How often do we pray after we plan and decide things?

We then want God's blessing on our plans. Peter should have started with prayer to see if God wanted him to do this.

He basically is saying here, "God here is this great plan, which I even have scripture for, now bless it!"

B. You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all,

1. **Lord**- Gr. **kurios**

2. **know the hearts**- Gr. **kardiognostes**- *heart knower*

a. Only God knows the heart, so He is the only one qualified to judge the heart. [1Sa 16:7](#)

C. show which of these two you have chosen

1. **show**- Gr. **anadeiknumi**- *to lift up anything on high and exhibit it for all to behold*

2. **two**- Gr. **duo**

a. Barsabas and Matthias

3. **chosen**- Gr. **eklegomai**

a. We often do this. We give God two choices and tell him to pick which one. Often, He does not pick either one because neither is His pick!

25. to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place."

A. to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell,

1. **take part**- Gr. **lambano kleros**- *to receive a portion or part*

a. Judas was given a very lofty possession and honor to be considered one of the 12 apostles of Jesus Christ. He fell from a very lofty place.

2. **ministry**- Gr. **diakonia**

a. This is the ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

3. **apostleship**- Gr. **apostole**

a. This is leadership within the church and to establish the faith.

4. **Judas**- means *he shall be praised*

1. He did not live up to his name in any degree.

5. **transgression fell**- Gr. **parabaino**- *to step by the side of; to deviate; met. to transgress, violate, to incur forfeiture*

a. Lucifer also fell from his position due to transgression. His sin was pride and love of possessions. [Isa. 14:12](#), [Ezek 28:16](#)
Judas fell in a similar way and for the same reasons.

B. that he might go to his own place

1. **go**- Gr. **eis**- *into*

2. **place**- Gr. **topos**

- a. Judas went into hell and has a place in there reserved for him. It is his place.
- b. His place is the same place as satan's place - the lake of fire.

26. And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

A. And they cast their lots,

- 1. **cast-** Gr. **didomi-** *gave*
- 2. **lots-** Gr. **kleros**

- a. Casting lots belongs to a prior dispensation. In this dispensation of the Holy Spirit, we do not need to cast lots. We have the guidance of the Holy Spirit on the inside of us to distinguish between choices.
- b. Jesus sent Peter and the rest of the disciples to the upper room to wait for the Holy Spirit, not hold a lottery.
- c. *Today we would vote, but then the common way was to put the names on stones, parchment, or wood into an urn and after prayer let somebody put his hand in and draw out one of the lots.* -Dake

B. and the lot fell on Matthias

- 1. **fell-** Gr. **pipto**
- 2. **Matthias**

- a. We never hear from this man again.

C. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles

- 1. **numbered-** Gr. **sugkatapsephizo-** *be depositing a ballot in the urn (i.e. by voting for) to assign one a place among, to vote one a place among*
- 2. **eleven-** Gr. **hendeka**
 - a. The twelve minus Judas.
- 3. **apostles-** Gr. **apostolos**
 - a. These are the apostles of the Lamb.