

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit
Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Lesson # 9 April 25, 2023 – April 30, 2023

Unit III: The Birth of the Church:

has five lessons from the book of Acts. Lesson 9 highlights JESUS CHRIST'S instructions to the disciples for them to wait for the empowering of the Holy Spirit before doing their witnessing. Lesson 10 deals with the celebration of Pentecost, when the disciples were empowered to speak in tongues. Lesson 11 deals with Peter and John healing of the lame man through the power of the Holy Spirit. Lesson 12 spotlights the Holy Spirit, who brought Phillip to the Ethiopian eunuch chariot, where Phillip explained the scriptures. Lesson 13 concludes the unit, where JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF directed Ananias to minister to his enemy, Saul, a newly convert.

Subject: Hope and Power

Text: Acts 1: 1-11

Key Verse:

Ye shall receive power. After that the Holy Ghost is come upon you (Acts 1: 8a, KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) The witnessing in Jerusalem (Acts 1: 1-3)
- 2) The Promised Gift from the Father (Acts 1: 4-8)
- 3) JESUS'S Ascension and HIS return (Acts 1: 9-11)

Introduction

It is important to know that the church (we human beings, who believes in JESUS CHRIST) is not an organization engaged in religious works and activities, but, rather, the church (we who believes in JESUS CHRIST) is a divine organism, the body of JESUS CHRIST, through which the power of the Holy Spirit operates. The assignment JESUS CHRIST left for believers to do can not be done unless the Holy Spirit empowers all believers to do in the name of JESUS CHRIST. You see, in order to faithfully witness about JESUS CHRIST we need the Holy Spirit. With the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit our witnessing are effectively powerful, when we remember that we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit continually. Then we can have hope and power that only comes through the presence of the Holy Spirit of GOD, whom JESUS CHRIST sends unto each believer.

Lesson Pointer # 1

- The witnessing in Jerusalem (Acts 1: 1-3)

Luke open up by confirming that Theophilus was a believer and was instructed as well as the church of JESUS CHRIST, in faith (Read Luke 1: 1-4). When you look at the verb began it indicates that Acts continues the very account of the ministry and teaching JESUS CHRIST began on earth. (Acts 1: 1). Now, (Acts 1: 2) speaks of JESUS CHRIST'S ascension and the instructions that was given through the Holy Spirit. The first instructions given through JESUS CHRIST was for the apostles to remain in Jerusalem (Acts 1: 4; Luke 24: 49). The second instructions given through JESUS CHRIST was that they were to go into the world and witness (Acts 1: 8; Luke 10: 4; Luke 24: 47).

JESUS CHRIST shewed Himself to His disciples after HIS resurrection, and gave them many convincing proofs that He was alive; forty days JESUS CHRIST were seen of them, and JESUS CHRIST speaking of things pertaining to the Kingdom of GOD (Acts 1: 3).

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Lesson Pointer # 2

- **The Promised Gift from the Father (Acts 1: 4-8)**

The Disciples was to remain in Jerusalem and wait for what the Father promised (Acts 1: 4). The promise was the gift of the Holy Spirit; JESUS CHRIST had taught His disciples that GOD the Father would send the Holy Spirit. The fulfillment of this promise was strengthened by reminding them of John the Baptist's testimony (Acts 1: 5). Even though John baptized with water, John prophesied that the One to come would baptize with the Spirit. The disciples misapplied the supernatural power as the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to the Jews hope that Israel's political kingdom being restored (Acts 1: 6). JESUS CHRIST brought His disciples back to reality, by saying, it is not for them to know the times nor the seasons, but it is for the Father to do in HIS time and by HIS authority (Acts 1: 7). JESUS CHRIST then tells His disciples that they shall receive the power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon them; and that they shall be witnesses unto HIM (JESUS CHRIST) both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1: 8). Wait in Jerusalem, until you are empowered with the Holy Spirit.

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Lesson Pointer # 3

- **JESUS'S Ascension and HIS return (Acts 1: 9-11)**

After JESUS CHRIST had given HIS disciples their final instructions, JESUS CHRIST was taken up and vanished out of the disciples sight (Acts 1: 9). Now, the disciples were mesmerized and heartbroken by seeing JESUS CHRIST vanishing out of their sight, try hard to continuing to see JESUS CHRIST as long as they could, then suddenly, while they were looking up into the sky, two men in white clothing (angels) appeared and stood by them (Acts 1: 10). The two men (angels) gently rebuked them, assured them that JESUS CHRIST that they knew would return the same way they saw HIM leave (Acts 1: 11). Now, the promise, along with the security of the Holy Spirit's power, gave them (the disciples) hope and confidence needed for witnessing. We to as believers in JESUS CHRIST need to know that the promise of JESUS CHRIST'S return provides hope for the present and future as we believers continue witnessing JESUS CHRIST faithfully through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

Hope and Power!