

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why is it necessary to wait on God?
2. How do we wait on God?
3. How should we respond when the Lord asks us to wait?
4. What are some of the things about Jesus that proved He is the Son of God?
5. What end time event can we learn from this text?

SUMMARY:

Our Lord had arisen from the grave and appeared on numerous occasions to the disciples and others over a period of forty days. These appearances proved without question His resurrection from the dead. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to them after He departed. Now, as the time for His ascension came, He again renewed that promise and instructed the disciples to wait in the upper room until they would be endued with power from on high. This power was to enable them to be His witnesses on this earth. In a parable, Jesus asks us to occupy till He comes.

Let us look up for His coming, but in the meantime, busy ourselves about our Father's business.

NOTES:

[SoF:5] We believe in Christ's bodily resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God, and that He will make a personal return to earth in power and glory.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #1

October 2, 2016

Fourth Quarter

THE LORD'S ASCENSION

LESSON TEXT: *Acts 1:1-11*

LESSON SETTING: In Jerusalem and later, in the vicinity of the Mount of Olives (Bethany) approximately one mile outside of Jerusalem.

TIME: About 33 A.D. Forty days between Christ's resurrection and ascension to heaven.

I. THE DIVINE PROOF. Acts 1:1-3

- A. Christ's Works. John 9:4; 10:25; 15:24
- B. Christ's Teachings. Matthew 7:28; Mark 4:2; 2 John 9
- C. Christ's Proofs. Luke 24:36; John 20:26; 21:12

II. THE DIVINE COMMAND. Acts 1:4-8

- A. Wait on God (vs. 4) Psalm 33:20; Luke 2:25
- B. Spirit Promised (vs. 8) Matthew 3:11; Luke 24:49; John 14:26
- C. Be Witnesses (vs. 8) Matthew 28:19-20 Mark 5:18-19; Acts 22:14-15

III. THE DIVINE PROMISE. Acts 1:9-11

- A. Ascension Fulfilled (vs. 9) Luke 24:51; Hebrews 9:24
- B. Return Promised [SoF:5] (vs. 11) Matthew 26:64; Hebrews 9:28

GOLDEN TEXT: *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.* Acts 1:11

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Acts 1:12-26

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: John 14:16-26; 16:7-15

QUARTERLY THEME: Early life of David

TOPIC: PREPARATIONS FOR PENTECOST

INTRODUCTION:

The disciples realized that now their work was laid out for them, but before they could begin they must obey Jesus' commandment, and wait for the Holy Spirit. How often—in our eagerness to be about doing God's will—we forget to wait on Him. He bids us wait and prepare ourselves for the work He has asked us to do.

The disciples spent this waiting period in prayer together. Their first act was to choose another to take Judas' place, which they did, but first praying for God's guidance. They were not alone in this upper room of prayer. We are told there were others, totaling a hundred and twenty persons. These were "all continuing with **one accord** in prayer and supplication." What a lesson for us to follow. How much we are in need of continuing with one accord. What blessings would be ours if we practiced this more often, to be completely united in prayer and supplication.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Our ascended Lord ever lives to bring guidance and help, and has promised to return.

GOLDEN TEXT: ***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 JUDEA, AND IN SAMARIA, AND UNTO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH.***
Acts 1:8

Thus Jesus outlined the spreading of His Gospel that He had committed to His disciples, who were now to become apostles. They had to be prepared for their mission. The first test was to be obedient and wait. "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." (Luke 24:49) Another requirement for a group to have the Holy Ghost come upon them is unity and prayer. "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication." (Acts 1:14) Finally, in waiting for the Holy Spirit and the revelation of God's will, men must do that which they can to make it possible for God to send the Spirit in full measure. The eleven sought God's will in choosing another apostle to complete their number. (Acts 1:24)

Blessed are we, if we also follow these examples in seeking the grace of God unto salvation and a portion of the Holy Spirit as our guide and strength. We should obey, wait on the Lord, pray and also do those things that accompany salvation. (Hebrews 6:9)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF October 3 – 9

- M. The Betrayer Identified. John 13:21-30
- T. The Betrayer's Suicide. Matthew 27:1-10
- W. *Peter's Leadership. Acts 1:12-20
- T. *Choosing of an Apostle. Acts 1:21-26
- F. The Promise of the Spirit. John 14:8-21
- S. The Comfort of the Spirit. John 14:22-31
- S. The Ministry of the Spirit. John 16:1-11

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