

May 1, 2024 - Wednesday

**“Obedience to God Releases His Promised Blessing”
 (“Acts” Series – Part 2)**

Acts 1:4, 5, 8-11 NKJ

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.”*

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.”*

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.”*

1. Keep Affirming and _____ the Truth!

Acts 1:12-13 NKJ

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

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.*

Matthew 13:55 NKJ

Is this not the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas?

Matthew 12:46-50 NLT

⁴⁶ *As Jesus was speaking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, asking to speak to him.*

⁴⁷ *Someone told Jesus, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, and they want to speak to you.”*

⁴⁸ *Jesus asked, “Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?”*

⁴⁹ *Then he pointed to his disciples and said, “Look, these are my mother and brothers.*

⁵⁰ *Anyone who does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother!”*

Luke 11:27 NIV; 28 NASB

²⁷ *As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, “Blessed is the mother who gave you birth and nursed you.”*

²⁸ *But He said, “On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God and follow it.”*

Matthew 15:3 NLT

Jesus replied, “And why do you, by your traditions, violate the direct commandments of God?”

Matthew 15:7-9 NIV

⁷ *You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:*

⁸ *“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.*

⁹ *They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.”*

John 2:5 NLT

But his mother told the servants, “Do whatever he [Jesus] tells you.”

2. Hold to the Pattern for _____ Waiting

Acts 1:14 NKJ

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. They were in _____

B. They were in _____

Hebrews 10:25 NLT

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

C. They continued in _____

Acts 1:15 NIV

¹⁵ *In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty)*

Acts 1:16-19 NLT

¹⁶ *“Brothers,” he said, “the Scriptures had to be fulfilled concerning Judas, who guided those who arrested Jesus. This was predicted long ago by the Holy Spirit, speaking through King David.*

¹⁷ *Judas was one of us and shared in the ministry with us.”*

¹⁸ *(Judas had bought a field with the money he received for his treachery. Falling headfirst there, his body split open, spilling out all his intestines.*

¹⁹ *The news of his death spread to all the people of Jerusalem, and they gave the place the Aramaic name Akeldama, which means “Field of Blood.”)*

Acts 1:20-26 NLT

²⁰ *Peter continued, “This was written in the book of Psalms, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ It also says, ‘Let someone else take his position.’*

²¹ *“So now we must choose a replacement for Judas from among the men who were with us the entire time we were traveling with the Lord Jesus—*

²² *from the time he was baptized by John until the day he was taken from us. Whoever is chosen will join us as a witness of Jesus’ resurrection.”*

²³ *So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias.*

²⁴ *Then they all prayed, “O Lord, you know every heart. Show us which of these men you have chosen*

²⁵ *as an apostle to replace Judas in this ministry, for he has deserted us and gone where he belongs.”*

²⁶ *Then they cast lots, and Matthias was selected to become an apostle with the other eleven.*

3. Faithfully Serve God _____ We Are!

Psalm 75:5-6 KJV

⁵ *Lift not up your horn on high: speak not with a stiff neck.*

⁶ *For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.*

1 Corinthians 3:6-8 NIV

⁶ *I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.*

⁷ *So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.*

⁸ *The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor.*

How long am I willing to _____ myself properly before God, so that He can do the _____ that He wants to do in, and through me?

4. Keep _____ for a Personal Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:1-4 NKJ

¹ *When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.*

² *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

³ *Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.*

⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

Acts 2:11b NKJ

. . . we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”

Luke 11:13 NKJ

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”