

Waiting For The Promise

Acts 1: 12 – 26

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Series: From Resurrection to Pentecost

Acts 1: 12 - 14

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ When they had entered *the city*, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴ These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with *the women*, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

What to do When Waiting. Vv. 12 - 14

- Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem.
 - They return to a large upper room.
- The disciples are listed with the exception of Judas Iscariot.
 - Also listed the women and brothers and mother of Jesus.
- Notice what they are doing.
 - They were in one accord, one mind indicating united fellowship.
 - They were devoted to prayer.
 - We are wise to learn to always fellowship together in one accord and in constant prayer.

Acts 1: 15 - 17

¹⁵ At this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons was there together), and said, ¹⁶ “Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ “For he was counted among us and received his share in this ministry.”

Acts 1: 18 - 20

¹⁸ (Now this man acquired a field with the price of his wickedness, and falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out. ¹⁹ And it became known to all who were living in Jerusalem; so that in their own language that field was called Hakeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰ “For it is written in the book of Psalms, ‘Let his homestead be made desolate, And let no one dwell in it’; and, ‘Let another man take his office.’

The Need to Organize Vv. 15 – 20.

- Peter stands in leadership.
 - The followers of Jesus numbered at 120.
- Peter preaches the fulfillment of Scripture.
 - David prophesied of Judas the traitor.
 - Judas was one of them, but was a traitor.
 - Peter (or Luke) gives more details of Judas' attempted suicide with gruesome details.
 - Psalms 69:25, and 109: 8 quoted for Judas to be condemned and replacement be made.

Acts 1: 21 - 23

²¹ “Therefore it is necessary that of the men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us— ²² beginning with the baptism of John until the day that He was taken up from us— one of these *must* become a witness with us of His resurrection.” ²³ So they put forward two men, Joseph called Barsabbas (who was also called Justus), and Matthias.

Acts 1: 24 - 26

²⁴ And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all men, show which one of these two You have chosen ²⁵ to occupy this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place. ²⁶ And they drew lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Restoring the Office of an Apostle

Vv. 21 – 26.

- The necessity to choose a replacement for Judas.
 - The replacement must have accompanied all of them from the baptism of John to the Ascension.
 - The replacement must have seen the resurrected Lord.
- Two qualified candidates are selected.
 - The Lord Jesus who chose the original twelve must choose Judas' replacement so they pray.
 - Jesus knows the hearts of all men.
 - Drawing lots was an acceptable Old Testament practice, but this is the last time since the Spirit now directs.

Conclusion

- As we wait for the Holy Spirit to move in our community, let's be faithful in fellowship and prayer.
- As we wait for the Holy Spirit to move in our community, let's be organized, ready and eager to follow His lead to be witnesses.
- Since we have the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, let's be filled or controlled by Him and follow His direction in work and ministry.
- Be faithful in fellowship, constant in prayer, follow God placed leadership, and follow the Holy Spirit's directions in life, ministry, and witnessing.