

Acts 1:8 Anchored and Moving Forward Dependent on the Holy Spirit

Last week we began a new study here on Sunday mornings in the book of Acts

A) We are calling this series of Studies in the book of Acts the Revolution

B) We will spend the better part of this year in this book –

1) HOME GROUPS – DOUBLE FOCUS – I will stay about 3-4 weeks ahead of them – Notes for reference

C) We are calling this the Revolution because:

Webster defines a revolution as a sudden, radical and pervasive change in society.

B) That is exactly what happened in the book of Acts.

C) The book of Acts Chronicles a group of men and women who, under the Power of the Holy Spirit, **did not leave their world the way that they found it.**

D) They did it without a single **media consultant, church growth seminar, management strategy, or slick presentation.**

E) They impacted the Roman Empire and the entire known world without buildings, busses, or budgets.

1) They were simply in love with Jesus Christ and were experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit

This is what was said in Acts 17:6 about this group of people.

A) “This are the ones who have turned the world upside down and now they are disturbing our city as well.”

C) We need more of that kind of Disturbance TODAY!

G. Campbell Morgan said, "Organized Christianity which fails to make a disturbance is dead."

I have to admit that I am concerned that the Church is not making a disturbance anymore.

A) More professed believers than ever/ more churches than ever – but we are not making as great of an impact.

B) I am not the only one who feels this way:

“We in the Church are so worried about fitting in. We are so worried about relating. We are so worried about being cool that we have forgotten what it is to make a stand for what is true. My fear is that instead of the church turning the world upside down, the world is turning the church upside down.” Greg Laurie

C) Now we can't do much to effect the Church as a whole,

1) but we can seek the Lord for Him to do a work in our Church.

What made the early Church so effective?

A) They were Anchored into Jesus

B) After the Resurrection they were more convinced than ever that He was the Messiah – the Lord – the King

1) {Last week thru many infallible proofs

C) So much so they were now ready to die for that Conviction. {Most of them would

So they were Anchored into JESUS – But they were not sitting still – they weren't in anyway being idle. { Waiting for Heaven.

A) They were anchored and moving forward to carry out the mission that Jesus gave to them before he ascended into Heaven

B) They were Anchored into Jesus and all that He stood for – all that He was about –

2) His passion would become their passion – His mission..... their mission

B) The Mission Stated: Matthew 28:19-20

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.”

We are going to divide our study in the book of Acts into 4 Separate series;

Series #1 we are going to call Anchored and Moving Forward. Ch. 1-5

A) In this series we want to note 5 Core Values of the early Church that they were Moving forward in as they were Anchored into Christ.

B) These 5 Core Values of the early Church are also

5 Core Values of this Church

1) These 5 Core values are seen in Chapter 1 and then magnified over and over again in the next 4 Chapters.

1. They were moving forward in their belief in the imminent return of Jesus Christ.

2. They were moving forward dependant upon the Holy Spirit.

3. They were moving forward with **a heart to reach the lost.**
4. They were moving forward **committed to preaching the gospel.**
{Method for reaching the lost
5. They were moving forward in **Unity amidst their diversity.**

Unity marked by 4 Priorities they gave themselves to Acts 2:42 –

The Word: Apostles doctrine and teaching

Prayer:

Fellowship:

Communion:

Today Anchored and Moving Forward Dependant upon the Holy Spirit:

A) So the Mission was to reach the world with the message of the gospel and to make Disciples

B) Daunting task for a small group of uneducated men. { Ever feel overwhelmed in the Christian life.

1) Husband/ wife: Parent/ Christian – Ministry

C) I am sure these guys felt overwhelmed and under qualified for such an enormous under taking

1) Impact – not Jerusalem not Galilee – The World

D) My Call to ministry: Unqualified – overwhelmed

1) This was going to have to be God – Used me all over the world –

The Prerequisite for the Mission: Acts 1:4-5,8

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." Defined in V.8

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."

This is interesting to me that even though the apostles had been trained personally by Jesus for 3 yrs – that wasn't enough for them to fulfill the mission he had called them to.

A) There was something that they still needed to really be what Jesus was calling them to be –

B) Necessary for them as well as for us.

Zechariah 4:6 "Not by might, nor by power but by my Spirit says the Lord."

C) This was a new concept that Jesus was sharing with them.

1) This idea of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit – v.8 He defines as the Holy Spirit coming upon them.

D) What does it mean – how happen – who is it for

What is the Purpose – Answer those questions today

I. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit:

Turn to John 14:

V.15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever — 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

B) Jesus told his disciples that he was leaving them.

1) The good news for these men is that they would not lose Jesus.

C) Not leave them orphans. He would stay with them in another way: Send His Spirit

1) Says **Another Helper** = Another of the same Kind.
Just like Him

Pause: Note that this teaching takes place on the night that Jesus is going to be betrayed

A) The night before the crucifixion – **after Passover** – Jesus is sharing his heart with them.

SIGNIFICANCE

B) Often when someone knows they are going to die – they gather their family together to share their heart – most important things on their mind.

C) OT Jacob on his death bed blessed all his sons – one by one he pronounced a blessing on them.

D) This was similar – **John 13-17** some of the most important messages Jesus gave –

“Intimate moments with the Savior” – Series

E) These were things that were going to become very real to these guys in just a short amount of time.

John 15 – Abiding – Key being dependant upon him like the branch is dependant upon the vine

A)The branch can't bear fruit unless it stays connected to the vine because it is dependant upon the vine –

B)For Emphasis V. 5 “For without me you can do nothing.”

C)But it is here that Jesus introduces the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

THREE ROLES

1)v.17 He is WITH you & He shall be IN You

What is the function of the H.S. WITH a person .

Ch.16:7-11 "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8 "And when He has come, **He will convict the world of sin,& of righteousness,& of judgment:** 9 "of sin, because they **do not believe in Me;** 10 "of righteousness, because I go to My Father & you see Me no more; 11"of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

A) According to this/ His first Job is to Convict the World of Sin- Sin separates us from God

B) If you are NOT a Christian today – H.S. is working on your Heart.

C)Conviction – You are a sinner / need a Savior / Only way Escape Judgement { **WOONG YOU**

John 14:17 He shall be IN YOU– Indwelling us

Look at John 14:26

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will **teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.**

John 16:13-15

13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will **guide you into**

all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and **declare** it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

A) Teaching and guiding – carry the idea of instruction and application.

B) Bringing God's word to light in our hearts

1) He opens the word to us and speaks to our hearts giving us insight into how it is to be applied.

C) So when did the Holy Spirit indwell the Apostle?

This is where there is debate in the Church – some people believe it happened at Pentecost

A) The Apostles were saved – indwelt with the Holy Spirit and Baptized by the HS all at once?

B) They say that is what happens to us. {All @ once

Those who say that I think ignore a key passage in John 20:18-24 Turn there

A) No one was saved before the Cross – right – Jesus had not yet died for sin.

B) They see him – **first occurrence – we know that because Thomas was not there V.24**

B) You read the other gospel accounts – Says He **appeared to the Eleven – Judas Suicide - 11 left**

1) He appeared to the Eleven means Thomas was present

C) V.26 : 8 days later – that is when he appears again to all of them. –
And Thomas is there.

1st time minus Thomas

A)V.22 Breathed - Receive ye the Holy Spirit – Born again- Indwelt with the Holy Spirit –

B)Breathed on them – symbolic of life

1) Genesis 2:7 God form man and breathed life into his nostrils

C)2 Timothy 3:16 – God Breathed

1)God breathed life into the word – His Life

D)Jesus breathed on the disciples – symbolic of life

New life –Born again.

Now there are those in the Church – who say this was symbolic of what Jesus was going to do – 50 days later on the day of Pentecost.

A)That doesn't make sense:

B)Note: He didn't breath on them and say – You shall receive the Holy Spirit –

1)He said – Receive the Holy Spirit

C)Plus I can't think of one place where Jesus gave a command that didn't take place immediately.

1)Receive sight – Demon come out – Storm be stilled

Instantaneous

D)Here they are Born again – Indwelt by the spirit of God – IN YOU

Third Role:

A) 50 days later on the day of Pentecost they receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit { Back to Acts 1

B) Prior to the ascension – these instructions Go and wait for the Holy spirit to come **upon you.**

II. What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit:

A) Think Baptism – think full immersion – the water envelopes you.

B) John Baptized you with water – Repentance

After saved – Mark follower

C) But you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit

1) V.8 Holy Spirit – comes Upon you

2) Not with – Not just in – but Upon

D) Understand that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not you getting more of Him.

1) You have all the Holy Spirit that is available when saved – He is in You.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is about Him getting more of you.

A) Glass and Pitcher analogy

B) Sail boat

C) Life of dependency and submission:

1) They waited in Jerusalem - Didn't jump the gun

III. The Purpose of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit:

“You shall receive power when the HS comes upon you and you shall be

my witnesses.”

Power to be His witness – Power to live the Christian life – Power to be what we are called to be!

A) Outward detectable sign or evidence

B) Ch.2 Spoke in tongues –

1) Even more – BOLDNESS – Peter

C) My life – no tongues – Word and Boldness

Bible teacher A. J. Gordon, @ a conference a walk looking across a field -at a house

A.) Beside house He saw what looked like a man at a well furiously pumping a hand pump to get water

A) Gordon watched in amazement at the Speed & the tireless pumping as the man just went on and on-

1) Up and down without ever slowing or stopping

C) This was truly a Remarkable sight - Gordon decided to head over there for a closer look -

1) But as He moved closer – He saw not a man / But a wooden figure that looked like a man

D) And that Arm that was pumping so rapidly – was hinged at the elbow – and **ATTACHED TO THE hand pump** on the well

E) And the Water that was flowing forth wasn't because the Man was pumping the water / **but the water was pumping the Man !!!**

That is the way it is with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It is not a

man working hard - vigorously

A) It is the Holy spirit working through the person - empowering the person!

B) If we don't understand this we start to try and live the Christian life and serve the Lord in our own strength { Major Frustration

A Lumber Jack who could cut down & cut up 5 trees a day w/ one of those two handled – hand saw – saw an add in the paper

The Hardware store was advertising a new saw that – Guaranteed that you could cut down 15 trees a day

So He went down & bought it – and set out to use it – but after 2 days he brought it back to the Store & was very Frustrated / only **2 trees a day**

Bought this – Guaranteed – 15 trees only 2 – something is wrong –

Manager of the Hardware store said – *Lets take a look* – walked over to that saw – Chain saw – Pulled the Cord – engine roared / Old guy jumped back – *What is that*

A) See that man was trying to use that Chain saw w/ out the Power supply

B) We as believers often make the same mistake

We want to walk w/ the Lord & be used by the Lord but we do so w/ out the Power source provided to us by the Lord

Vance Havner said, "We are not going to move this world by criticism of it nor conformity to it, but by the combustion within it of lives ignited by the Spirit of God."

C) We need to get back to this dependency that the early church had

upon the Holy Spirit.

1)Lives surrendered and dependant

IV. Who is it for?

A)Acts 1:4 Wait for the Promise of the Father

Luke 24:49 Prior to ascension

“Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

The Promise of the father

For every believer who recognizes I need Help

V. When and how does it occur?

When?

A)Note consistent language – Upon

B)After Conversion in the case of the Apostles

Acts 2:1-4

C)Believers in Samaria Acts 8:16

D)In the case of Paul the Apostle Acts 9:17

At conversion in the case of

The House of Cornelius at the time of conversion. Acts 10:44

“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.”

Acts 11 Peter telling the story about what happened to them said:

Acts 11:15-16

“And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. 16 Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'”

What was happening to them reminded him of what they experienced on the day of Pentecost.

At Conversion – Paul talking to some men in Ephesus. Acts 19:6

“And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.”

Note laid hands on them – common occurrence

But after the initial Baptism of the Holy Spirit this is what we will see in the book of Acts – then being filled with the Holy Spirit.

A) Re-empowering { Re Charge

Acts 3:10 Acts 4:8 Acts 4:31

Acts 13:9 Acts 13:52

ONE BAPTISM – MANY FILLINGS

A) Daily filling – empowering –

1) DL Moody – why refilled – I leak

C) Ephesians 5:18 “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.”

How? Luke 11 – Taking care of your kids

Fish – serpent – Bread Stone

Luke 11:13

“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!”

Ask by faith -