

Acts 29 Authentic

Turn in your Bibles today to Acts Ch. 29 - What ?

A) You are right there is no such thing as an Acts 29 in your Bibles.

B) But the thing I want us to consider – today is the book of Acts ended abruptly because it is not the end of the Story.

C) The Acts of the HS thru the Apostles- continues to this day thru believers all over the world.

D) Star wars The story continues

E) You are a part of the book of Acts– Turn to the person next to you and say – you are a part of.....

Now consider this: Have you ever wondered how the early Church was so effective and powerful?

A) It is said they totally turned their world *RIGHTSIDE UP* without technology.

B) Without Modern day Media – Modern day transportation -

1) Gospel spread from Israel to Europe/ Africa

C) The early Church though not perfect walked in a degree of power victory and purpose.

1) And they didn't even have the **NT scriptures** that we love to study.

How did they do that? – Why were they so powerful?

A) I believe the answer to that is this: They learned what it meant to **LIVE dependant on the HS.**

B) They learned what it meant to walk in the Spirit.

1) They were in tune to the voice of the Spirit.

C) As the NT was being written – I believe it merely was **confirming the things** that the HS was already speaking to their hearts about.

D) The way that they lived is really the way that we are called to live.

1) If we did we would be much more effective.

Now there are some today who believe and teach that when the full canon of scripture was completed – NT writings were finished

A) That the role of the HS changed in the Church changed.

B) Now that we have the NT that is our guide – much of the Church today has become less dependant on the HS

C) Havner – remove the HS and 90% of the Church today will not even know he is gone.

D) If true that is a sad commentary on the Modern day Church.

Here is what I want us to do today – I want to do a quick run through of the ministry of the HS in the life of the early Church – Relevance for us today.

A) Start in John – Broad overview - work our way thru the book of Acts – see the impact take these scenes together **Looked at each one indept in the past**

B) John 14:15-18

15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments. Love the Lord with all Neighbor....."

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.

C)The first thing we notice here – Jesus says to his disciples – **You need a helper.**

D) I get that – the more I understand what God is calling me to do and be as a Christian man / husband / dad/ and even a pastor – I recognize I need help.

Another Helper

A)Another = of the same kind.

B)Jesus had been their helper but now He was going to send His Spirit - Another Just like me

Idea is reinforced in v.18

A)V.18 Not leave you orphans – *I will come to You*

B)Not a force – this is the very spirit of Christ – that is being sent.

C) V. 17 He identifies the helper - The Spirit of truth.

1)– So part of his work is going to be revelation – revealing truth – giving guidance

**With
IN**

John 14:25-27

25 "These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 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.

A) Jesus taught them and now the Holy Spirit was going to teach them instruct them – bring to remembrance

John 15:26-27

26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. 27 And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

Testify and bear witness of Jesus.

John 16:5-11

5 "But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7 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.

A) Revelation in order for the Spirit to come – Jesus had to go

B) Advantage – Jesus in a body was limited – one place one time one person one time -

C) HS with every believer in every believer

8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Part of his ministry is conviction:

A) The need of a Savior- pulling towards

B) Conviction vs condemnation.

to reprehend severely, chide, admonish, reprove

2) to call to account, show one his fault, demand an explanation

C) Alarm - Guys we have a Built in Alarm System – H.S. in our Hearts. First house in OCSD – Awakened in the middle of the night – Alarm – thought House was on fire.

A) Ran down stairs – nothing no smoke – no fire.

B) I couldn't get the alarm to go off until I dealt with the problem. – Candle burning in the bathroom.

C) Holy Spirit is like that Alarm – Loves us so He is going to convict us - You need to deal with this problem.

D) **Current house** – Alarm by our kitchen – wife cooks smoke – we have to disengage the thing.

Exactly what some Christians do – disengage the HS by turning a deaf ear – Learn to ignore

A) Because Jesus loves the world – Convict of sin – pull them toward Jesus.

B) Because He loves us – wants us to grow – He will convict us of compromise

1) **Temptation – Alarm goes off** - (Sin Alarm goes off)

C) In Sin - Keep Convicting – seeking to make us Miserable until we deal w/ the Problems / run from the temptation

John 16:12-15

12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 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) The Holy Spirit is going to have a guiding ministry.

B) The HS was going to advance the revelation or make things clearer

1) He will give revelation of things to come.

C) His goal is to glorify Jesus by bringing that revelation.

D) John 20:22 – Receive you the HS – Born again and indwelt with the Spirit.

Acts 1:4-5 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."

Baptized – immersed – The water getting more the man – From ankles to Head - Sail Analogy

THE GLOVE

Acts 1:8

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."

Upon – Endued with Power

A) Power to be witnesses – Dunamis – Dynamic power

B) Witnesses is martyrs {ready to die

C) CH. 2 Pentecost –Prayer and waiting - HS falls – tongues.

1) Happens as a result of obedience to Jesus – they were in Jerusalem waiting on the Lord

D) Peter empowered by the Spirit preaches with incredible insight for OT – **Guidance {rev of truth**

1) Result 3,000 saved church is birthed

Acts 4:8 Peter *Filled* again preaches before the Sanhedrin – with great boldness

A) They could tell they had been with Jesus

B) Acts 4:31 Prayer again – HS falls again – place is shaken

C) Connection to Prayer –Our Prayer life is one of the biggest evidences of our dependency on God.

Acts 5 A couple lie to the Holy Spirit concerning the amount of the proceeds of a piece of land sold.

A) They drop dead on the spot –

B) Extreme – to my knowledge/ But God was sending a message young church.

C) He is called the *Holy* Spirit for a Reason.

1) Holiness and purity are God’s desire for His Church.

Acts 6 Helpers needed in the Church for practical ministry.

A) Men full of the Holy Spirit and Faith.

Not just good guys with servants hearts

B) Now at this place in the story of the book of Acts some time passes – the Church is Comfortable.

1) They haven't branched out beyond Jerusalem.

C) Persecution comes – shakes things up. Gets them going – Acts 8

Philipp a deacon goes to Samaria

1) **Leading look beyond prejudice** – Samaritans

D) Jesus had already modeled that – now the Holy Spirit was leading them to follow Jesus example.

1) Philipp preaches there – many saved.

Acts 8 v.15-16 Believers in Samaria –Needing the baptism –V.16 not yet fallen UPON .

A) Acts 8:29 Leads in a new direction. Revival is breaking out – the HS says to Philipp – go to Gaza.

B) How did he speak – not sure - Philipp was open to the voice of the HS - he went

1) Think people questioned – **Philipp – what are you doing are you crazy – nothing in the desert.**

C) Being led by the spirit means being open to do something new.

1) Break out of our comfort zones { go against the grain.

D) **Divine appointments** – Missions walking a street – Lord vision – Lord lead

Why were they so dependant on the Spirit and why are we not?

A) Routines – Life for them was constant movement – journey

B) Ours is static – everyday is the same.

C) They knew their mission – Make disciples – we don't –

1) We like comfort – they didn't care

What would happen if we prayed this week – Lord I am open use me – let me see needs – pp

A) I think He would blow our minds.

B) Especially if we were obedient to that leading.

C) Acts 9 Paul converted and baptized by the Spirit

Acts 10 The Holy Spirit challenges Peter's bias against gentiles opening a new door for the ministry of the gospel.

A) The Holy Spirit will do this He will challenge our preconceived notions and ideas

B) Know this: HS is not going to contradict the Bible 1) not going to tell you to quit your job and go on welfare –

C) the word says man who doesn't work shouldn't eat and a man who doesn't provide for his family is worse than an unbeliever. '

D) He will challenge previous ways of thinking and prejudices and attitudes that are not biblical.

Acts 10:44 Cornelius gentiles – again – Baptized by the Holy Spirit.

Upon

A)Acts 11:15-16 Peters recap – this is what Jesus was talking about.

B)Acts 11:28 Agabus Showed by the Spirit – world wide famine. Gift of Prophecy exercised.

C)Acts 13:1,2 New missions program initiated by the Holy Spirit.

1)Born out of **fasting, prayer and a time of **ministering** to the Lord in worship.**

D)Holy Spirit spoke.....

Acts 13:9 Paul filled with the Spirit confronts a demonic Sorcerer.

A)Power of the HS in the Life of the believer over the Devil.

B)Acts 16:6,7 Resistance by the Holy Spirit.

1)What does that look like?

C)Could be a Closed door/ my life more often it is a lack of peace.

1)Sometimes to the point where I can't sleep – sick to my stomach.

Acts 18:5 Compelled by the Holy Spirit.

A)Compelled = to compress or to press together with the hand-Driven

B) Strong leading – a strong sense. Can't shake it – Keeps coming back –

Acts 21:10 Through Agabus the Holy Spirit testified – again word of knowledge and prophecy – tribulation was in Paul's future.

So in this quick jaunt through the book of Acts we see the HS – teaching, guiding, empowering, equipping, compelling and leading into new territory new adventures

The Result was the world would never be the same again. –

A) 2,000 yrs later should it be so different?

B) Should we go thru life with very little input – very little leading of the Holy Spirit?

C) In closing I want us to quickly consider 4 keys to living a spirit filled life

1) And 4 Hindrances

Keys to a Spirit filled and Spirit led life.

#1 DEPENDENT

A) Recognize the need for Help

#2 HEART TO SERVE

A) Wanting to be a part of the great commission.

#3 A WILLINGNESS TO BE LED

A)Not so fixed on my ways and plan

#4 AN OBEDIENT HEART.

A)When the Holy Spirit says go I go – stop I stop

B)More obedient – more He leads – more We experience His power.

Hindrances to living a Spirit filled, and led life.

#1 Pride. Lack of dependency

A)God resist the proudto the humble.

#2 Hardness of heart – or unwillingness

“Unbelief says: Some other time, but not now; some other place, but not here; some other people, but not us.

Faith says: Anything He did anywhere else He will do here; anything He did any other time He is willing to do now; anything He ever did for other people He is willing to do for us!” A.W.Tozer

#3 Willful Sin.

A)Stops the flow of the Spirit in our lives.

B)Spirit’s work is quenched - water on a fire

C)The Holy Spirit is grieved.

Sins like Bitterness and unforgiveness

#4 Distracted by our flesh

A)Galatians 5 Battle between the flesh and the Spirit.

B)Walk in the Spirit flesh.

1)Choice

C)How Walk - Two dogs – the one I feed the most.