

# The Acts of the Apostles

## Lecture 1: Chapter 1

### Chapter 1:1-3 – Introduction

*my former book* – “Luke” – this is volume II in the set

*Theophilus* – “one who loves God”

*Jesus began* – He’s only just begun...(was, and is, and ever shall be)!

*the Holy Spirit* – also there from the very beginning (Genesis 1:2)

Acts: “the Gospel of the Holy Spirit”

*convincing proofs...he was alive* – the resurrection is at the heart of the Gospel witness

*spoke about the kingdom of God* – mentoring the disciples during the 40 days

Application: The kingdom of God is not a \_\_\_\_\_ but an \_\_\_\_\_. Not a reign of \_\_\_\_\_ and control, but of \_\_\_\_\_ and freedom. (Matt. 6:10 – “on earth as it is in heaven”)

### Chapter 1:4-8 – Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit

*the gift* – the coming of the Holy Spirit is not a result of our work, but God’s grace

*baptized with the Holy Spirit* – looking ahead to the day of Pentecost

*restore the kingdom* – shows the disciples still needed to learn/grow in faith (like us!)

*not for you to know the times or dates* – it’s pointless to focus on the “when/where/how”

*witnesses* – Greek: “martyrs” (Are there any truths you’d be willing to die for?)

*in Jerusalem...Judea...Samaria...ends of the earth* – start at home (near geographically & culturally), but don’t stop there!

(cf. v. 15 – only 120 believers among 4 million Jews in Israel back then)

Application: If ever anything began from \_\_\_\_\_ beginnings the Christian Church did!

### Chapter 1:9-11 – Jesus ascends into Heaven

*taken up* – not just disappeared...he was going somewhere! (Heaven); not stuck in one location

*two men* – clearly angels (cf. Luke 24:4)

*why...looking into the sky* – brings them back to earth!

*back in the same way* – in the clouds (cf. Luke 21:27)

Application: There’s a danger that we can be so \_\_\_\_\_-minded that we are of no \_\_\_\_\_ good.

### Chapter 1:12-26 – Judas’ position among the Apostles is filled

*a Sabbath day’s walk* – 2,000 paces (about ½ to ¾ mile), cf. “a stone’s throw” in English

*upstairs* – the place of the Last Supper? (Luke. 22:12), ties in with the coming Pentecost

*in prayer* – don’t dismiss the importance of this aspect of faith!

*ministry* – a reminder the disciples’ work is not about “status” but “service”

*been with us the whole time* – eye-witness of the resurrection

Application: The real mark of a Christian is not that he \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus,  
but that he \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.