

NOTES

UNIT FIVE — “Israel’s Bar Mitzvah” – Acts 1 – 5

A. SIX KEY EVENTS: The Spirit Blows Both Ways

1. Jesus’ Final _____ (ch 1:4-8)
2. Jesus’ is “_____ Up” (ch 1:9-11)
3. The First _____ of the Holy Spirit (ch 2:1-41)
4. The “First _____” of the Holy Spirit (2:42-4:37)
5. A “Foul Fruit” of Church _____ (5:1-11)
6. _____: God’s Unlikely “Missions Conference” (5:12-42)

B. Jesus’ Final Words — Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Acts 1:8

1. Jesus’ final command is stern and emanates from Jesus the _____, *not* Jesus the _____ — “*stay put!*” (Gk - *paraggello*; same word used by the Sanhedrin in 4:18; 5:28).
2. The disciples’ final _____ is both deflating *and* instructive:

“So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” Acts 1:6

 - a. They still don’t have the _____ straight!
 - b. Jesus’ response unveils our perennial problem: missing the _____ because of a preoccupation with the _____ (cf. 1:7 and Matt 24:3-5).
3. Jesus’ final promise is both _____ *and* didactic (1:8):
 - a. It forms the “_____” for Luke’s “second book” (1:1).
 - b. It introduces God’s principle of “radiating _____”:
 - (1) _____ (Acts 1-7); “*out-in-out.*”
 - (2) _____ (Acts 19); the capital city of Asia; Paul is here two years.
 - (3) _____ (Acts 18); leading city of Achaia; Paul is here 18 months.
 - (4) _____ (Acts 23-26); home of Roman governor of Judea; Paul is here 2 years.
 - (5) _____ (Acts 28); the “center” of the world; Paul is here 2 years.
4. Jesus’ departure was a _____:
 - a. PHYSICALLY: It _____ the possibility of more “appearances” (1:3).
 - b. THEOLOGICALLY: It laid the foundation for the _____ of “The Story” (1:11).
 - c. SPIRITUALLY: It left the disciples _____ – dependent *and* expectant (1:14).

C. PENTECOST: The “Bar Mitzvah” of Israel

1. The events of Acts 2-5 chronicle God’s People “coming of _____”
2. This is a _____ event from start to finish:
 - a. Pentecost (*Shavuot*) was the shortest of the three “_____” festivals (Ex 34:22; Lev 23:15-21; Num 28:26-31; Deut 16:9-12, 16-17).
 - b. Every Jewish festival was a celebration of something God had done for them as a _____. This day would be no different.
 - c. Peter’s “audience” (Jews from 16 geographical regions) was the result of a long history of _____ (2:5-11).
 - d. They had been put “_____” (*diaspora*) so they would come “_____” (Jerusalem) so they could go back “there.”
 - e. God was beginning the process of pushing out the boundaries of what it meant to be one of the “_____.”
3. Peter was a _____ Evangelist
 - a. His second sermon occurred on the Temple Mount on his way to the Jewish time of _____ (3:1-11).
 - b. He linked _____ directly to, “*the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers...*” and “*all the prophets*” (3:13,18).
 - c. He presented Jesus as _____’ promised “Prophet just like me” (Deut 18:15-19; Acts 3:22).
 - d. Peter explained this Pentecost as the fulfillment of an _____-year old prophecy (Joel 2:28-32).
 - e. Stephen, Philip, Paul, and _____ do the same thing throughout this book (Acts 7,8,13,15).
 - f. Most importantly, Peter identified Jesus as the fulfillment of the _____ covenant (3:25-26).

D. “Church Lite” — The Dark Side of Growth – Acts 4:36 - 5:11

1. Making the Straight Story Crooked: Ananias and Sapphira
 - a. Their story: “*We’re just like _____!*” (4:36 - 5:2).
 - b. The real story: “*We’re not even IN the _____!*”
 - c. The apparent miracle: two _____ posers
 - d. The real miracle: a “church” (1st ref) where _____ could not hide.

E. Seven Habits of the “New Jew” – Acts 2:42 - 4:37

1. A hunger to _____ the “One Story” — “*the apostles’ teaching*”
2. A commitment to gather for the growth of _____ — “*fellowship*”
3. A commitment to be in each other’s homes for _____ — “*the breaking of bread*”
4. A commitment to regular group _____ in private and public (1:14; 3:1; 4:23).
5. A commitment to shared resources *and* _____ (2:44-45; 4:32-37).
6. A commitment to _____ the “One Story” — “*the Lord added to their number daily*” (2:41, 47; 4:4; 5:14).

7. Genuine basis for _____: commitment to the “One Story” – “*one heart and mind*” (4:32).

F. Pentecost and the Christian

1. It is significant that _____ entered the Church at a time of numerical growth and relative peace.
2. When I think of being a Christian, do I think of myself or the _____? The present or the past? Abraham or Paul?
3. Do I think of biblical community and fellowship in terms of the _____, or common activities?
4. What do you think is the purpose of the Holy Spirit in your _____?