

Acts 1:6-26 - Part 2

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 10-12-16

- I. Introduction
 - A. Introduction to Luke (Luke 1:1-4)
 - B. Introduction to Acts (Acts 1:1-5)
- II. In Jerusalem (1:6-6:7)
 - A. Waiting for Pentecost (1:6-26)**
 - B. The Day of Pentecost (2:1-47)
 - C. The outbreak of persecution (3:1-4:31)
 - D. Satanic counter-attack (4:32-6:7)

Waiting for Pentecost (1:6-26)

1. They received their commission (1:6-8)
2. They saw Jesus go to heaven (1:9-12)

3. They prayed for the Spirit to come (1:12-14)

V. 12 - "a Sabbath day's journey"

- Rabbinical tradition of 2,000 cubits (cf. Ex. 16:29; Num. 35:5; Josh. 3:4-5).

V. 13 - "upper room"

- Who was there? V. 15 - a gathering of about 120 persons, including:
 - the 11 remaining disciples (cf. Luke 6:14-16)
 - Peter and John now listed first?
 - Pairs of brothers broken up?
 - the "women" of Luke 8:1b-3, plus Mary the mother of James and some other women (Luke 24:10, 22)?
 - Mary the mother of Jesus and his brothers (cf. Mk. 3:21, 31-34; John 7:5, then I Cor. 15:7)
- What were they doing? V. 14 - "with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer"
 - _____
 - Gk. ὁμοθυμαδὸν (*homothymadon*) - "together with one _____" (10x in Luke, 1x elsewhere)
 - _____
 - "Continually devoting" themselves - to be strong, steadfast, persistent (cf. 2:42; 6:4, as well as Rom. 12:12; Col. 4:2)
 - Grounded in the _____ (1:4) and _____ (1:4, 5, 8) of Jesus
 - Cf. Luke 24:53 - they "were continually in the temple praising God"

What can we learn from the apostles' example about how we should approach prayer?

4. They replaced Judas with Matthias as an apostle (1:15-26)

The _____ for such an appointment - Judas' defection and death (vv. 18-19 - parenthetical statement)

- "Disagreements" with Matthew's account (27:3-8)
 - Who bought the field?
 - Matthew - Priests and the elders
 - Luke - Judas (1:18 - "acquired a field with the price of his wickedness")
 - **Reconciliation?**
 - How did Judas die?
 - Matthew - hanged himself
 - Luke - "falling headlong, he burst open in the middle and all his intestines gushed out" (Acts 1:18)
 - **Reconciliation?**
 - Why did the field come to be called "The Field of Blood"?
 - Matthew - bought with "blood money"
 - Luke - insinuates because of his bloody end
 - **Reconciliation?**

The _____ for such an appointment - the fulfillment of Scripture (1:15-17, 20)

- V. 15 - "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled..."
 - Jesus had opened their minds to the meaning of the Scriptures (Luke 24:27, 32, 45)
 - Quotes from Psalms 69 (v. 24) and 109 (v. 8) to apply the words to their own circumstances
- Jesus drew a _____ between the 12 apostles and 12 tribes of Israel (Luke 22:28-30)

The _____ appointed - Matthias (1:21-26)

- Main objective of apostolic ministry = (Acts 1:22b; 4:33; cf. 13:30-31)
- The primary qualification = (2:32; 3:15; 10:40-42)
 - Paul qualifies (I Cor. 9:1; 15:8-9), but not as a member of the foundation 12 (cf. Acts 1:21b-22a)
- The decision maker = (Luke 6:12-13; Acts 1:2)
 - The 120 sifted through the candidates and narrowed it down to 2
 - Prayed that the Lord would show them the right person he had chosen
 - V. 24 - Gk. καρδιογνωστα (*cardiognosta*) - "heart-knower"
 - V. 26 - drew lots - sanctioned by OT, but was no longer used after the HS comes
- Pattern for discerning God's will:
 - General leading of _____ (vv. 16-21)
 - Use of _____ (vv. 21-23)
 - _____ (v. 24)

What can we infer about the role the HS plays in discerning God's will in light of the absence of casting lots following Pentecost?