

## Jesus—Acts 1:1-8, 13-26

### Mathias is Chosen to Take Judas' Place

#### I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

**1:6...** “As with Jews generally, the apostles were still laboring under the illusion that Christ would ‘restore’ the Davidic regime of Old Testament fame. They had not yet fathomed the truth that His kingdom was ‘not of this world’ (Jn 18:36). The Lord did not respond directly to their query; they were not prepared for a full explanation at that time, so Jesus simply instructed them to wait for the Spirit’s arrival, by which they would be empowered” [Wayne Jackson, *The Acts of the Apostles—From Jerusalem to Rome*, p. 9].

**1:8...** POWER--“Here the word for power is *dunamis*, power, efficacy, authority, strength. This is the word used of the gospel in Romans 1:16 – The gospel is God’s power...” [Harold Littrell, *A Commentary on the Book of Acts*, p. 5].

**1:11...** IN LIKE MANNER--“The phrase ‘so in like manner’ emphatically affirms Christ’s *literal* second coming, together with the *visible* manner of it. This is hard evidence for the fact that the second coming of the Lord will not be an *invisible* coming (as in the alleged ‘rapture’). Nor will it be a mere *providential* coming, such as occurred in A.D. 70 when the Lord ‘came’ in judgment upon Jerusalem (cf., Mt:24:30), nor yet will it be a *representative* coming, via the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (cf., Mt 16:28; Jn 14:18)” [Jackson, p. 10].

**1:14...** MARY THE MOTHER OF JESUS--“The mother of Jesus is here mentioned for the last time in New Testament history. The fact that she still remained with the disciples, instead of returning to Nazareth, indicates that John was faithful to the dying request of Jesus, and continued to treat her as his own mother (# Joh 19:26,27). Though the prominence here given to her name shows that she was regarded with great respect by the apostles, the manner in which Luke speaks of her shows that he had not dreamed of the worship which was yet to be offered to her by an idolatrous church” [McGarvey].

**1:16...** MUST NEEDS HAVE BEEN FULFILLED—“...the fact that Judas’ activity was prophesied does not mean that he was compelled, independent of his own willpower, to commit the foul deed. Even he confessed: ‘I have sinned in that I betrayed innocent blood’ (Mt 27:4). Free-moral agency is an awesome responsibility!” [Jackson, p. 12].

**1:21-22...** “It is of some moment to observe here that the question on which Peter is discoursing has not reference to the original appointment of an apostle, but to the selection of a successor to an apostle. The qualifications, therefore, are found necessary to an election, must always be possessed by one who proposes to be a successor to an apostle” [McGarvey].

**1:25...** GO TO HIS OWN PLACE—“... the place he had made for himself. There is no better example of the proverb: ‘He made his bed, and had to lie in it.’ Whatever our destiny, it will be our ‘own,’ in that *we are preparing for it*—one way or another. ... There is no doubt in Peter’s mind of the destiny of Judas nor of his own guilt (18)” [Jackson, p. 14].

#### II. Chronology.

**BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of the Church.**

**III. Summary.**

In this text we find Luke's introduction to Acts, which he connects with his account of the life of Christ he had written. He is sure to mention the infallible proofs of the resurrection of Jesus. He talks about assembly with Jesus just prior to the ascension. He tells them when the POWER would come, not answering--directly—their uninformed question about restoring the kingdom. Jesus gives an outline in verse eight of how the kingdom would be spread. The betrayal of Judas and his subsequent suicide necessitated there being a replacement for Judas, according to the Scriptures. The successor of Judas would have to be someone who had been with them from the beginning even to the ascension of Jesus. Two men met those qualifications and a selection was done by lot, that that the Lord might make the choice (v. 24). The lot fell on Matthias and he was numbered with the eleven.

**IV. Outline.**

1. The promise of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:1-5).
2. A question from the apostles (Acts 1:6-8).
3. The choosing of Judas' successor (Acts 1:13-26).

**V. Questions.****True or False**

01. \_\_\_\_\_ Judas had gone to his own place.
02. \_\_\_\_\_ We do not know how long Jesus appeared on earth after His resurrection.
03. \_\_\_\_\_ The Book of Acts contains one of the listings of the names of the apostles.
04. \_\_\_\_\_ Peter calls Judas a GUIDE.
05. \_\_\_\_\_ Matthias took Judas' place as an apostle.

**Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)**

06. \_\_\_\_\_ Considering the information from Acts 1:3 and the fact that Pentecost was 50 days from Passover, about how many days did the apostles have to wait in Jerusalem: (a) one month; (b) ten days; (c) at least a year.
07. \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus told the apostles, in answering their question, something about the times and seasons: (a) they could easily see them; (b) it was not for them to know; (c) be careful to watch for them.
08. \_\_\_\_\_ When Peter began his speech about replacing Judas, about how many were present: (a) 14; (b) 120; (c) we don't know.
09. \_\_\_\_\_ Peter described Judas' thirty pieces of silver as: (a) a fool's reward; (b) the reward of iniquity; (c) a traitor's reward.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ The Book to which Peter referred regarding Judas was: (a) Isaiah; (b) Jeremiah; (c) Psalms.

**Fill in the Blanks**

11. "...Thou Lord, which \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of all men, show whether of these two thou hast chosen."
12. The first three names of the listing of apostles were: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Considering the qualifications to be a successor of an apostle, can there be any apostles today? \_\_\_\_\_
14. "...ye shall be \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ not many days hence."
15. The last place the gospel was to be taken was: the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.

*Each Question is worth 7 Points*

**My Score is:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Answers will be found on next week's handout*

**ANSWERS to Lesson 02-110...** [01—False, Lk 24:47; 02—False, Lk 24:45; 03—True, Mt 28:16; 04—False, Mt 28:19; 05—True, 1 Cor 15:7; 06—d, 1 Cor 15:8; 07—a, Mt 28:19-20; 08—b, Mt 28:16; 09—b, Lk 24:46; 10—c, 1 Cor 15:7; 11—name, Lk 24:47; 12—promise, tarry, Jerusalem, endued, Lk 24:49; 13—all, power, earth, Mt 28:18; 14—teach, nations, Father, Holy, Ghost, Mt 28:19; 15—observe, commanded, with, Mt 28:20.]

## VI. Lessons & Applications.

- 1. The former treatise...** (Acts 1:1). Luke and Acts are written by the same person. These two books make up the largest contribution from a single writer of the New Testament. We are greatly blessed to have Luke's account of the life of Christ and his history book of the church—both of which were written by the inspiration of God (2 Tim 3:16-17). Luke, being a physician, uses more detailed medical descriptions in both of the books he penned.
- 2. ...being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God** (Acts 1:3). Jesus, the Master Teacher, continued even in these last forty days of His existence on this earth to teach the disciples. We do not have recorded all of these words He used in these final days with these chosen ones, however, we are confident they would be words to encourage them in the tremendously important work they were about to begin. By knowing that the Pentecost Day is 50 days from Passover, we can also know that the apostles were waiting in Jerusalem for about ten days.
- 3. ...it is not for you to know...** (Acts 1:7). These disciples, even with all the teaching Jesus had done, were not yet prepared to receive further instruction about the kingdom. We can be supremely confident that this all changed in ten days when they were baptized in the Holy Ghost. How wonderful that we have such a wonderful revelation from God!
- 4. ...the number of the names were about an hundred and twenty** (Acts 1:15). It seems that some have tried to say that there were 120 baptized in the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Day. This cannot be true! Just by some very simple grammar, we can trace the antecedent of the pronoun THEY of Acts 1:1 back to the word APOSTLES of Acts 1:26. The promise of baptism in the Spirit was ONLY to the apostles and they were the only ones baptized in it.

## VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

M A T T H I A S Q L A Z K N O W E S T H  
 Z A Q W S A X S C O D E R E F V B G T E  
 Y H N M J L U H I T K O P M E D C V F A  
 C D E R F L V O B S G T Y L Y H N M J R  
 C D E Q A T B W G T T Y H L N M J U I T  
 M J U Y H H N B G T R F V A T C D E Q S  
 X S W R B E G I N N I N G V A F R T Y H  
 D N N H Y T U J H N H Y R F K C D W F V  
 E O C D E I R C O M P A N I E D R I B G  
 R I V F R M T G J B G T Y N N H Y T U M  
 E T C C D E E R F T G B N H U Y U N D M  
 B C C H D E R F O V B G T Y P U J E B V  
 M E X S O W E C M S A D U J C D N S T G  
 U R B G T S Y H S E D C V F R I T S W B  
 N R V F R T E V I R T Y H N A E D C I Q  
 A U X S W E D N T C V F R D T G B N T J  
 M S Q A Z X S W P R F V R B G T Y U H U  
 C E V F R T G G A N H O M J U I K T U E  
 C R V F R T G B B N H Y U J M K I T S R  
 C D A P O S T L E S H I P D E R F D R L

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

**Acts 1:21-26...** <sup>21</sup>Wherefore of these men which have **companied** with us **all the time** that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>**Beginning** from the **baptism of John**, unto that same day that he was **taken up** from us, must one be **ordained** to be a **witness with us** of his **resurrection**. <sup>23</sup>And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and **Matthias**. <sup>24</sup>And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which **knowest** the **hearts** of **all men**, **show** whether of these two thou hast **chosen**, <sup>25</sup>That he may take part of this ministry and **apostleship**, from which **Judas** by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place. <sup>26</sup>And they gave forth their **lots**; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was **numbered** with the eleven apostles.