

# Acts 1: 6-11

May 5, 2019

## The Final Words

- The Assignment (6–8)
  - When they had come together (Mount of Olives) (6)
  - They had questions (6) & Jesus gets them refocused (7)
    - Don't be worried so much about the timing or times but stay focused on the task.
    - Great weapon of the enemy is distraction
  - Theirs and Our Purpose for existence (8)
    - Power to accomplish the task (Holy Spirit)
    - Clarity of the task (Be his witnesses)
      - Not in the imperative form here but carries the weight of a command and was understood as one.
        - **Acts 10:42** <sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.
    - Scope of the task (From where we are to the ends of the earth)
      - Jerusalem (Where they had just killed Jesus 40 days earlier)
      - Judea (Where most of the opposition to Jesus had arisen in the last months of his ministry)
      - Samaria (Where they already hated each other)
      - To the end of the earth (Where they would leave all semblance of comfort)

- **Matthew 28:18–20**<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
- **Luke 24:47–48**<sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.

- The Ascension (9–11)

○ Glorious sight (9)

○ Gentle reminder (10–11)

▪ To our benefit

- **John 16:7**<sup>7</sup> 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 go, I will send him to you. (To our benefit)

▪ Prepares a place for us

- **John 14:1–3**<sup>1</sup> “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.<sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

▪ Intercedes for us

- **Romans 8:31–33**<sup>1</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be <sup>[i]</sup> against us?<sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?<sup>33</sup> Who shall bring

any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

▪ He Will Return

- **Matthew 16:24–27** <sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? <sup>27</sup> For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

○ Illustration (So heavenly minded that you are no earthly good)

- Approve
- Rebuke

**Colossians 3:1–4** “<sup>1</sup> If then you have been raised with Christ, **seek** the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> **Set your minds** on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. <sup>3</sup> For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.”

“It is only when you are heavenly minded that you are any earthly good!”

We have our task, they are waiting on the promise, but we have received the promise. What are we doing with it?