

MAKING JESUS KNOWN

Acts 1:1-8

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Our mission as Christians should be:
 - i) Magnifying Jesus through worship and the Word.
 - ii) Moving believers in Jesus toward maturity in ministry.
 - iii) Making Jesus known to our neighbors and the nations.
- b) Jesus gave His apostles a “mission impossible.”
 - i) The apostles were a unassuming, rag-tag group of uneducated fisherman.
 - (1) No religious training.
 - (2) No financial backing.
 - (3) No public prestige.
 - (4) No political influence.
 - ii) The apostles had many obstacles in their way:
 - (1) They were coming against the imperial might of Rome.
 - (2) They were coming against the intellectualism of the Greeks.
 - (3) They were coming against the religious bigotry from the Jews.
- c) In spite of all the obstacles, Jesus commanded them to go into all the world and share the message of the Galilean peasant crucified by the Roman government.
- d) In all of God’s goodness to us, He requires of us obedience.
 - i) He has commanded us to be witnesses unto Him throughout the world.
- e) We need to repeat in this day what the early church did so long ago.
- f) We need to go back to the fundamentals of our faith.
 - i) We have been given a commission.
 - ii) We have been given a responsibility.
- g) In the book of Acts, we see that we are to be living supernaturally, not superficially.
- h) In today’s message, we will see three things we need to learn in order to make Jesus known to our neighbors and to the nations.

2) WE NEED TO RECOGNIZE HIS PRESENCE IN US (Acts 1:1-3)

- a) The hero of the book of Acts is Jesus.
 - i) Acts 1:1
 - ii) This is not the account of the acts of the apostles.
 - iii) It is the account of the acts of Jesus Christ.
- b) The book of Acts was written by Luke, a physician.
 - i) The “former treatise” Luke wrote was the Gospel of Luke.
 - (1) The Gospel of Luke contains what Jesus began to do and teach.
 - ii) The book of Acts contains what Jesus continues to do.
 - (1) The Gospels contain what Jesus did in His human body.
 - (2) The book of Acts contains what Jesus is doing through His body, church.
- c) The book of Acts is about the continued work of Jesus Christ through His church.
 - i) The Lord Jesus Christ is still active and alive on Planet Earth.
 - ii) Luke wrote the book of Luke to share what Jesus is doing.
 - (1) In the Gospels, it was through His material, physical body.

- (2) A witness simply tells what he has seen and heard.
- ii) John 9:25
- iii) When Jesus Christ is real to us, it is natural to witness to others about Him.
- c) When we witness, it is not us but the Holy Spirit communicating through us.
- d) We are not to witness about denominations, just Jesus.
- e) The divine strategy in witnessing:
 - i) God can use you.
 - ii) God can use you with what you have.
 - iii) God can use you where you are.
 - iv) God will supply your every need.

4) WE NEED TO RESPOND TO HIS PROGRAM THROUGH US (Acts 1:8)

- a) Do your neighbors know that you're saved?
- b) We need to first minister to our communities before we can go out to the ends of the world.
- c) Our business is to be a witness.
 - i) Ask God to make you a soul winner, a witness.
- (1) A witness is somebody telling others what he has seen and heard.
- d) There is no greater joy than to lead a soul to Jesus.

5) CONCLUSION

- a) We need to ask God today to make us soul winners for Jesus Christ.
- b) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- c) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31