

Acts Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. Report from Maranatha.
- B. Jesus Christ humbled Himself died on a cross for our sins. (Philippians 2, John 10:30)
- C. One must honor the Son as the Father. (John 5:23, 2 John 9)
- D. A more noble search would be to try to connect with the divine - this is Jesus Christ.
- E. There are two creations - the second creation and the creation of the world. To become a Christian is to be translated from Satan's world to God's. (Colossians 1:12, 2 Corinthians 5:17)

II. Acts 1.

- A. The disciples were called to be witnesses.
- B. They then sought to replace Judas.

III. Acts 2.

- A. The importance of Scripture in Acts.
 - 1. The eleven disciples having been told that they were to be witnesses to the entire world were then equipped with power to do it.
 - 2. Pentecost was a major festival for Jerusalem calling in many people of different languages - God gave the disciples tongues to speak to these people.
 - 3. Peter, accused of being drunk, sites Scripture to explain it otherwise. (Joel 2:28-32)
 - 4. The secret to the success of the early church was the use of Scripture.
 - a. Jesus Christ modeled living by the Word of God. (Matthew 4)
 - b. If we are going to be used of God the way God wants to use us, we must be able to share the Word of God. We have to take the time to get into the Word, studying it and memorizing it.

- B. The disciples stuck to the theme of preaching the gospel and talking about the living Christ. (Acts 2:23, 3:13-15, 5:10, 5:30)

- 1. This means they were called to repent - go in another direction.
 - 2. The disciples held all things in common in order to train the spiritual converts before they went out.

3. This drive for discipleship was successful as shown through the spread of the gospel following the persecution. (Acts 8:1)
4. Philipp turned on the light in cities to overcome the darkness by following the pattern of preaching of the apostles.
5. Helps in opening one's mouth to share the gospel.
 - a. Be bold having unashamed freedom of speech. (Acts 4)
 - b. Spend time alone with Jesus. (Acts 4:29)
 - c. Confess sin for cleansing and forgiving. (Proverbs 28:1, 1 John 1:9, Jeremiah 20:9)
 - d. Have the Word of God dwelling on your heart.

IV. Application.

- A. Be articulate in sharing the gospel.
- B. Lay the Word of God on your heart – MEMORIZE key verses.

Application questions

1. What does Peter's use of Joel 2 demonstrate about Scripture memory in the early church?

2. How can one find confidence in sharing the gospel?

3. Why memorize Scripture? What are you doing to memorize Scripture and how might you strengthen your memory program?

