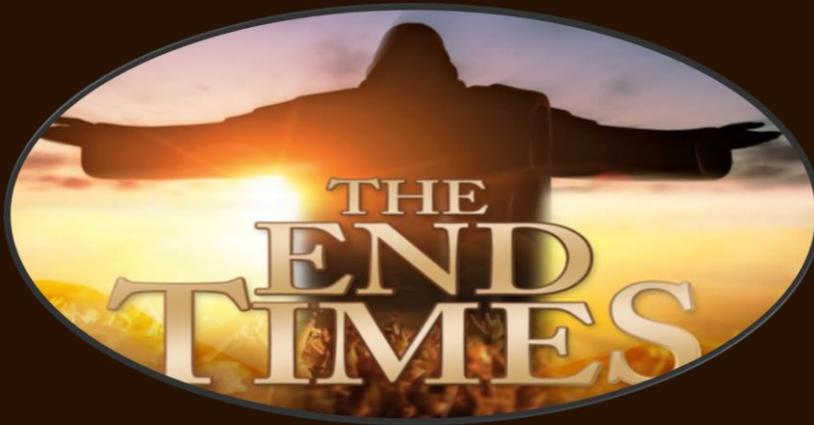


SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



Practical Heavenly Mindedness
SOLID ROCK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 8000 Derry Street (Rear)
 Harrisburg PA 17111

1

Study Schedule Apr – May 2020

Date	Lesson Title	Scriptures
4/15/2020	The Last Days Are Here!	Acts 2
4/22/2020	He Will Come Back	John 14:1-27
4/29/2020	Signs of the Times	Mark 13
5/6/2020	God's Timing—and Ours	Joel 2:12-32
5/13/2020	The Future of the Human Person	1 Cor. 15:12-28, 35-44, 58
5/20/2020	Investing in Heaven	1 Thess. 4:13—5:11; 2 Thess. 3:6-18
5/27/2020	Going to the Lamb's Wedding	Rev. 7:9-17; 19:1-10; 21:1-9



2

This Week's Lesson – April 15, 2020

End Times - Practical Heavenly Mindedness Lesson 1: The Last Days Are Here! Acts 2



3

"What is Christian Eschatology/Last Days?"

Eschatology is the study of what the Bible says is going to happen in the end times.

Last Days– Refers to the period of Grace (after the death, burial & resurrection of Christ) before the final Judgement.

End Times - The series of events – leading up to the Final Judgement



4

Introduction to Acts

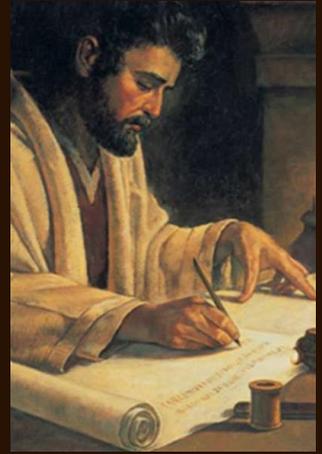
Author: Also called Acts of the Apostles. From Luke 1:1–4 and Acts 1:1–3, we know that Luke wrote both Luke and Acts.

Date of Writing: Acts was likely written between AD 61 and 64.

Purpose of Writing: Acts was written to provide a history of the early church. The emphasis of the book is the fulfillment of the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19 – 20). Acts records the apostles witness, guided by the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem, and the surrounding world (Primarily through Peter and Paul).

Practical Application:

- The book of Acts serves as a transition from the Old Covenant to the New - starting with the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- God does amazing things through ordinary people empowered by His Spirit (ex. Paul's conversion in Acts 9).
- Peter's vision Acts 10:9–15 shows another transition from the OT to NT - unifying Jew and Gentile in one universal Church by faith in Christ.



Luke – Physician,
Missionary, Writer of
Luke & Acts



5

Timeline of Events in Acts 1 – 2

Jesus Appears To His
Disciples At Galilee



Jesus Ascends To
Heaven



The Holy Spirit Descends
at Pentecost



Historically, Pentecost (Shavout) is a Jewish feast 50 days after Passover marked by pilgrims coming to Jerusalem from all over the world to celebrate.



6

Acts 2:1 – 4 (NKJV)**Coming of the Holy Spirit**

1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a]with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The Crowd's Response

5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.



7

Acts 2:1 – 4 (NKJV)

6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.

7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?"

8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?

9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,



8

Acts 2:11 – 13 (NKJV)

11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”

12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean?”

13 Others mocking said, “They are full of new wine.”

Peter’s Sermon

14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

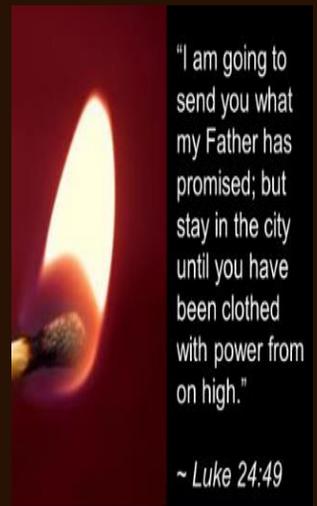
15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.



9

1. What happens to the waiting disciples to assure them that Jesus will continue to expand his worldwide mission?

- The Disciples received the Promised and Prophesied Power of the Holy Spirit from Heaven.
- The disciples experience the Supernatural Joy of Spirit – Empowered Gospel preaching.
- They experienced the ability to speak in new languages to share the Gospel with people from every nation.
- The experienced the Power to do things that they could not normally accomplish on their own.



“I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

~ Luke 24:49



10

2. Why do you think Luke, the author, is careful to note the countries of origin represented by the visitors to Jerusalem for this great feast (vv. 9-11)?

- Luke wants us to know that this Gospel is a not just for the Jews (by birth), but for the world.
- He also points out that the Spirit empowered the disciples to speak real languages – that they had never learned.
- In contrast to God using different languages to scatter in the OT (Gen 11: 1 – 9), He is in the NT using languages to unify under the Gospel.
- Ultimately, Luke wants us to know that this a work of God – not man.

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”

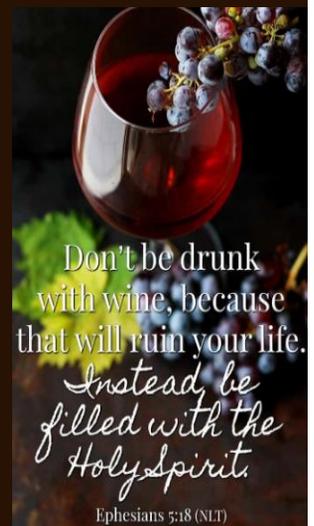
Mark 16:15



11

3. With what arguments does Peter counter the charge that he and his friends were intoxicated (v. 13)?

- We Are Not Drunk - it is only the 3rd hour (9:00 am) – Jews did not eat nor drink during the day on the sabbaths and solemn feasts.
- This Is That - Peter states that this is what God prophesied thru Joel in the OT that the Spirit would be poured out upon everyone.
- This Is The Prophesied Sign before God’s Coming Judgment of sin and sinners.
- This the Gracious Opportunity – The purpose is get yall’s attention - to give you and opportunity to hear the Gospel and cry out to the Lord for salvation in Christ.



12

4. What indicates that these people's behavior was based on something beyond emotional feeling (vv. 4-5, 7-9, 11)?

Scriptures

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.

7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.

Remarks

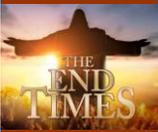
- They were filled/influenced by the Spirit (Truth).
- The Spirit gave them utterance – in keeping with the Word.
- They spoke real languages – to real people.
- It amazed the onlookers – with undeniable evidence.
- The disciples are simple folks - Galileans doing amazing things!
- It was a witness to a great multitude
- It was Purposeful – so that everyone would hear the Glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ!!!



13

5. What evidence does Peter give that he is correct in claiming the "day of the Lord" (v. 20, the last days) has arrived?

- The outpouring of the Holy Spirit as - Prophesied by Joel in the OT (This is That – Acts 2:16).
- The Work of Christ and His prophetic fulfillment fits between the OT prophecies and the final Judgement.
- "The Day of the Lord" is now is a day of opportunity to experience new life, forgiveness and the full endowment of the Spirit.



14

Acts 2:32 – 33, 36 – 39 (NKJV)

20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood,
Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.

21 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the
Lord Shall be saved.'

22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man
attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God
did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—

23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and
foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have
crucified, and put to death;

24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it
was not possible that He should be held by it.



15

Acts 2:32 – 33, 36 – 39

32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.

33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received
from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which
you now see and hear.

36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has
made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to
Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized
in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive
the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar
off, as many as the Lord our God will call."



16

6. Peter does doom unbelievers and the executioners of Jesus, but rather stresses the grace of the day of the Lord. Why do you think he does this?

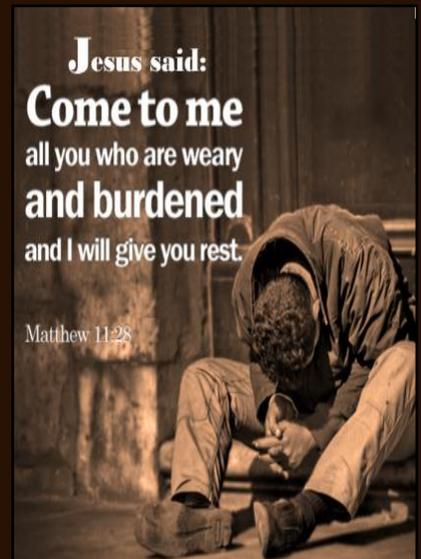
- Peter wants the people to understand that while there is no excuse for their sin and unbelief – the death of Jesus was ultimately the plan of God.
- The death of Jesus was/is the payment for sin – for everyone could be made right with God.
- To demonstrate the love of God – who came to save the lost, while there is still time.
- To validate the meaning/fulfilment of OT with Jesus Christ as the embodiment of Scripture.



17

6. What hope does this bring for people today who are currently rejecting Jesus as their Lord and Savior?

- It gives hope to those, no matter what they've done we all can be saved, forgiven and accepted (Even the ones who crucified Jesus were forgiven).
- God's plan from the very beginning – was/is to save us from sin and bring us into His family through the Person and Work of Jesus Christ.
- God has been gracious and continues to be gracious by withholding the Judgement they/we rightly deserve to give me a chance to receive Christ.



18

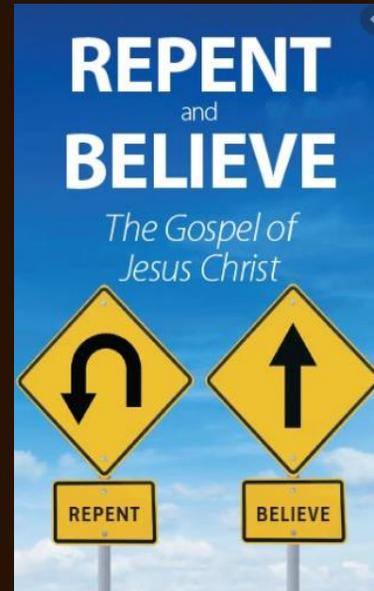
7. What must people do to respond to the arrival of the last days (v.38)?

Christians/Believers:

- Commit to Worship/Prayer
- Study and teach the Word
- Spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Unsaved/Unbelievers

- Repent – Change your mind about Sin (Agree with God).
- Believe on Jesus Christ as your Saviour
- Be baptized in Water In The Name of Jesus Christ – as a testament of your faith.



19

8. What evidence in the text suggests that the Spirit outpoured on Pentecost is now the permanent endowment of the church for its mission in the world?

Scriptures	Remarks
33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father <u>the promise of the Holy Spirit</u> , He <u>poured out</u> this which you now see and hear.	The Spirit dwelling in every believer is the expressed Promise of God in Christ - OT & NT. The Pouring out has taken place which formed the Church.
38 ...and <u>you</u> shall receive <u>the gift of the Holy Spirit</u> .	It is Personal, Practical (for ministry) and the Purposeful an essential part of being a Christian.
39 For the promise is to <u>you and to your children</u> , and to <u>all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.</u>	It is Perpetual for every generation, Powerful – to reach the lost Progressive – to reach the whole world.

Note: In the OT, the Spirit would not normally indwell God's people – but would fill them as needed when they were actively engaged in the Work of the Lord.



20

Keys for Living

- Jesus has not only given us the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19 – 20) but has also provided the power of His Spirit to carry it out.
- Since the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have been in the “Last Days”. This means that now is the time for the Church to get busy with the mission of evangelizing the lost.
- Every believer has the responsibility to know the Gospel and continually grow in the faith through the knowledge and understanding of God’s Word.



21

Questions



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)



22

What Shall the Church Do in the End Times?

But ye shall receive power,
after that the Holy Ghost is come
upon you: and ye shall be
witnesses unto me both
in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea,
and in Samaria, and unto
the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8

