

Read Returnment Plans -
Bunthox March 8, 1987 B.M.

"WORLD CONQUEST"

Acts 1

INTRODUCTION:

Acts is a continuation of Luke's Gospel. *one of most important Books in N.T.*
Without Acts no information of Early Church.

The author, Luke, beloved physician, fellow traveler of Paul *loyal friend*.

Luke 1:3-4 - What Jesus began to do and teach in the flesh.

Acts 1:1-5 - What Jesus continued to do through the Spirit. *Story of The Church*

He tells the story of missions, the infant church, and the world as field for missions.

Aim: *Christianity was a universal religion for all men in every nation.*

The Christian movement beyond original boundaries.

I. LAST WORDS AND WILL OF JESUS - V. 1-11

Jesus is preparing to leave his will in their care. *(Man makes a Will for his heirs) - Jesus*

V. 1 - Former Treatise - or book. Luke 1:3.

Theophilus - "God's friend" - God lover - God beloved.

Man of high rank, of wealth - book intended for wider circulation or general readership.

Jesus began - he continued - to do and teach through the Holy Spirit. God doing his work.

V. 2-3 - Proofs - infallible evidence between resurrection and ascension - 40 days. Eating broiled fish, bearing the nail and spear wounds. They saw - touched - ate with. Mark 16:1-8, Matt. 28:5-20, John 20-21.

His presence had become their life!

Showered himself - Saul on Road to Damascus - Billy Graham in N.C. - Robt & Lee in S.C. Revival meeting, Corner old Rail Fence gave heart to Jesus - To New York - Threatened & listened - heard all story.

V. 4 - Waiting for God.

Invitation is to wait for preparation, whole life depends upon preparation.

Don't out run God - wait for vision - get your bearing (too much activity tends to scatter.)

Jerusalem is the place where it will take place.

"Promise of Father" - not ready for their life work - cannot live on own.

Holy Spirit - not for deluxe middle Christians.

Instruction - Don't leave Jerusalem - problem of waiting - our timing is seldom right with God's timing.

V. 5 - Why could they not begin with their work immediately? *Funny - God called them to do something & not give them time to do - watch the time - wait -*

John The Baptist - water - Matt. 3:8. Pointed to the Saviour, gave evidence of repentance.

V. 6 - Questions

Men stumble over unimportant questions.

They began to ask and kept on doing so.

What did they mean by questions? (Kingdom)

Why were they interested?

How did Jesus answer them?

What kind of Kingdom were most of them interested in?

Thought Kingdom of God / was the Kingdom of Israel - their nation, restore, means to former state, that under David. Involved - a political state.

Before criticizing, the early Disciples, people asked why does not God do something to solve the problems of the world?

When he has already done something - provided redemption, if men would submit to it.

V. 7 - Words of Correction

They wanted to know these things in advance.

Mary Slessor - Scottish girl - carried Christ to Africa. (African chief) listening to what she proposed to do -- "You do all this? Why, you are only a woman!"

Yes, but you have forgotten the woman's God!

V. 8 - The Will of The Risen Lord for His People.

They were concerned about an earthly Kingdom.

He is concerned about a Kingdom in the hearts of men.

He had a word of encouragement -- (wait).

He had a word about their equipment -- power.

He had a word about their work -- witness.

He had a word about their achievement - uttermost, last part of the earth.

One of most thrilling mission stories in history of Baptists is the story of work among wild (plains Indians of Oklahoma).

John McIntosh took the Gospel to the hostile Wichita Tribe. He said - "For a long time I had a burning desire to preach the Gospel to those wild Tribes. There were no roads. In fact, I did not know how far it was. Besides these were days of notorious outlaws and horse thieves.

After much prayer I was convinced God was calling and I determined to go and trust my Lord to give his blessing upon the effort.

A good (horse) was selected. My wife prepared my food supply mainly dried beef, sofkey, blue dumplings and two canteens of water. Early in July (1874) I bade my family goodbye and started on the hazardous journey of 200 miles.

On the evening of the third day I encountered four outlaws. They were driving a bunch of cattle which I was quite sure they had rustled. They admired my horse and talked of taking him along, but I told them my mission and they let me pass by.

When I arrived at what is now known as Oklahoma City, it was a bare prairie full of dangerous wild animals. I made camp for the night, and was lulled to sleep by the cries of owls, wolves, and mountain lions. My horse was frightened by the weird sounds and broke loose from his stake. There I was left a foot among wild animals with my water and food supply low. I lay there in the night pondering my dire predicament. Tears rolled down my cheeks as I appealed to God my constant companion to guide and protect me.

Before day break, I heard a noise near by. I got up to see what it was. There stood my horse. I rejoiced for happiness and did not wait for daylight to continue toward my destination.

As I approached the present site of Anadarko, a band of Indians surrounded me and threatened to kill me while some abused me. I pleaded with them to spare my life, telling them that I had brought the Word of God to the Indian people, and they let me pass on.

At the Indian Agency, I contacted a Delaware Indian Chief named Black Beaver to interpret for me. We made our way to where the Wichita Tribe was encamped. The camp covered several acres. Tepees and grass wigwams were pitched in groups along the creek banks.

Later in August, (1874,) the Chief sent his camp callers through the camp calling the Indians to come together to hear the man who had come to them from the Great Spirit. It was Sunday morning, a scene I shall never forget. Indians came with guns, human scalps hanging to their belts as trophies, and faces smeared with war paint.

Standing up with Black Beaver by my side, I opened the Bible and said to them, "This is the Word from the Great Spirit above all his children! Black Beaver interpreted it into their language. Then I read John 3:16 and this was interpreted. For two full hours I gave them as best I could the revelation of God to man.

This was the beginning of mission work among the wild Indians of the Plains.

Men like John McIntosh willing to live dangerously - fulfilled the will of Jesus.

Today we are great on security. 19 year old kids today want to know about a company's retirement plan when they go to work.

The spirit of security has lulled us into spiritual paralysis.

We want to play it safe when it comes to missions.

Most churches give to missions what they think they can safely do without.

We are not going to win this world or our Jerusalem by playing it safe.

Population explosion is putting us farther behind. Millions have chosen

communism, committed to Islam, Buddahism, Hinduism, or superstitions of paganism.

We have a tolerant attitude towards those who have never heard the Gospel.

Sin is a tragic reality.

Do you know what makes men in the slums of this city come home drunk and beat their wives and children? It is the power of sin in their lives.

Did you know there is only one thing that will cure them? It is the power of Christ in their lives.

Men act the same way in South America, Asia, and Africa for the same reason.

All over this world the spiritual condition of those who have never heard of Christ is the same.

A recluse millionaire lived with his mother and his cat. His cat and his mother were the only interests of his life, and in that order.

His brother finally convinced him that he should take a trip to Paris.

Upon his arrival in Paris, he called home to see about his cat, and his brother announce "the cat is dead".

It ~~crushed~~ him. After thinking about it for a few days, he called his brother back and said, "why didn't you break the news to me more gently? You could have said - the first time, the cat is on the roof, and we are having some difficulty in getting it to come down."

Then the next time I called you, you could have said, we got the cat down, but he was injured and is not doing too well.

The next time, I called you, you could have said "I am sorry, but the cat didn't make it." This would have broken the news to me so much more gently.

By the way, how is mother? His brother answered "she is on the roof."

I am going to break the news to you as gently as possible, but if we are going to have world conquest, we must begin by fulfilling the will of Jesus.

Pastor of River Oaks Church, Houston, Texas said we have a woman about 50 years old who lost her husband. Shortly after the death of her husband, the Pastor asked her what her plans were. To his surprise, she said she was going to offer herself for missionary service. Her children were grown. She was a nurse, and she knew of the need for nurses on the mission field. Today she is serving in a mission hospital in Africa.

If we are going to take the world for Christ, we must become obsessed with the

challenge of the task - our major interest must be doing His will.

II. GATHERED CHURCH - V. 9-26.

V.9 - Departure - completing his last will and testimony - a cloud received him out of their sight.

Best part of a trip is getting back home, Jesus was going home.

V. 10-11 Watched - Two messengers - same Jesus who went away will return.

Told them all they needed to know!

They say three things man never gets back - his youth, his hair, and change from a \$10 bill at the supermarket.

"Same Jesus" - like manner.

*After the crisis Every time They went back to Jer. & gathered with Believers,
" getting out of Prison Peter " " " " "
" crisis a tremendous sense of Fellowship & community —*

V. 12-14 Upper Room - Sabbath Days Journey 3/4 Mile.

*People Wanted to be There !!
Something about these people*

Obedient to His Word - waiting in Jerusalem. 120 people.

One mind - accord oneness in experience.

Worship me - we have to put on show to get people to come - They really wanted to be together -

(A) They had war Jesus + each other - if you get a group of people

And about all my name
going to go to church - sense-10-y Fellowship.

Praying in order to get themselves clothed with his power.

Confessing their sins and failures, might be forgiven, cleansed.

Forgiving each other of wrong doing.

What is going to Win The World?

Static

- There is a Grave Stone - 1st miss - said 6 months after arrival -
wife only one left to read The Scripture & Burned The Body - she Carved
Laying themselves on altar. Go ye into all The world & Preach The Gospel.

V. 15-20 - They Honoured The Scriptures

V. 16 - As David spoke in Psalm 69.

Sin ruined Judas. Sin ruins men and women today.

Prophecies concerning Christ fulfillment. God plans, men carry out his plans.

This runs parallel with Scripture. Isa. 40:3 speaks of John announcing the Lord.

7:14 - Tells the Messiah shall be born of a virgin. Jer. 31:15 - tells of babies
being killed at time of his birth. Hosea 11:1 - predicts his flight to Egypt to

escape Herod. Zechariah 9:9 tells of his riding upon a mule into Jerusalem. Psa. 22:8.

David tells of the disposition of his garments at his death. Zech. 11:12-13 - tells
of Judas and the betrayal and what is done with the money and how he died.

V. 21-26 - While waiting they conducted a model business meeting.

Judas - a man who gave his name without his heart, without his sympathy, his
help.

Successor of Judas have much to live down. Every man is paving the way for his successor. He is making it easier or harder for the man who follows.

Two names were presented.

Lot fell upon Mathias - Barabas did not leave the church in a huff, he worked faithfully.

V. 24 - "Knows hearts of all men."

David George - the answer to Question
What about value of missionaries said "If the church fails in its ministry to the world, then the rest of us might as well close up shop."

Prayers for welfare of church and preachers.

Dr. Frank Lambert said that the best way to find God, in his opinion, would be to go seek out a person in deep need & do all within your power to help meet that need & lift up that person.

Pray - New Revelation of Risen Lord.

- Fuller experience of the power of the Resurrection.
- Unwavering Faith in His Word.
- Fresh provision of Holy Spirit.
- Spirit of unity amongst believers.
- Believing prayer.

Dr. Walter Todd - MD man & congressman - Good - Surrender to Dr. Todd. Miss Prof. Chided - "Wasting his life" in class. afraid of Dr. Todd, can't believe you work you life, knowledge, skill, faraway place, no one appreciate you can set up office, independently wealthy, fame, ecclesiastical

God called - to China -
Ship Back 1st Furlough -

Wire from Prof. soon as back to my home - study Walter
3 things - 1 - Aut Dr. 2 - Dr. Dr. Specialist 3. Best Family -
Travel, swimming pool etc paid - all send shipping through fingers, What's wrong?

How can we live for Christ without losing our lives while pointing to life