

Living Word Fellowship Church

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The Holy Spirit and the Book of Acts

A. The Holy Spirit Establishes the Church:

1. Holy Spirit who is the Helper of Christ (John 14:16-17) immediately brought into His role established the new dispensation, the church (2:32-33, 38):
 - a) Jesus 'orders' to the disciples was provided by the Holy Spirit (1:2).
 - b) The disciples are reminded that the only way they can fulfill their call to establish the church is through the Holy Spirit (1:4-5,8).
2. The writing of the scriptures concerning what Judas would do in reference to the death of Christ was inspired by the scriptures (1:15-19).
3. The Holy Spirit came upon the disciples at Pentecost empowering them to be able to speak to those who gathered for the Passover from various countries. The Holy Spirit provided the disciples the ability to speak to all these people in their own dialect (2:4; this was continuously being done; 4:8, 25). This was in fulfillment of Isaiah 28:11. As a result the Holy Spirit established the first congregation, the first community of believers so that when the church is scattered it can impact the world as Christ directed in Acts 1:8.
 - a) The maturation process of the church kept being ignited by the Holy Spirit (4:31; 9:31).
 - b) The leadership of the church was viewed as being directed and controlled by the Holy Spirit (5:3; 20:28; 6:5; 7:55; 8:29; 9:17; 13:9). Even in the case of Jesus, who was fully human and full God, He was also led by the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:38).
 - The appointment of leaders took place because of the Holy Spirit (13:2-4).
 - They were empowered and anointed by the Holy Spirit even while being persecuted (13:52; 20:23; 21:11).
 - They were protected by the power of the Holy Spirit (16:6).

B. It is the Holy Spirit that was the equalizer because He came into everyone whether Jew or Gentile (8:15-19; 10:44-48; 11:14-16, 24; 15:8; 19:1-6).

C. The Proclamation or Explanation of the Scriptures was a result of the Ministry of the Holy Spirit (28:25; 19:1-7). He is the Spirit of truth (John 14:16-17). We must experience the truth in order to live a life that represents the abundant life Christ died to provide (John 14:6; 10:10).

1. Understanding the scriptures was a result of the ministry of the Holy Spirit (15:28).

D. Some Characteristics of the Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts:

1. The Spirit can be resisted (Acts 7:51).
2. The Spirit can be lied to (Acts 5:3).
3. The Spirit can be obeyed (Acts 10:19-21).
4. The Holy Spirit has a will, indicating He has the power of a sovereign choice and decision. In Acts 16:6, the Spirit exercised His will in forbidding Paul to preach in Asia and redirecting Paul to ministry.

E. In this book the 'Spirit of Christ' most likely represents the Holy Spirit (Acts 16:7; Ephesians 4:4).

ACTS

Focus	1:1	Witness in Jerusalem 8:4 8:5	Witness in Judea & Samaria 12:25 13:1	Witness to the Ends of the Earth 28:31
Divisions	1:1	Power of the Church 2:47 3:1	Expansion of the Church 8:5 12:25	Paul's Three Journeys 21:16 21:17
Topics	1:1	Jews Peter	Samaritans Phillip	Gentiles Paul
Place		Jerusalem	Judea & Samaria	Uttermost Part
Time		2 Years (A.D. 33-35)	13 Years (A.D. 35-48)	14 Years (A.D. 48-62)