

THE BOOK OF ACTS

October 28, 2018

Acts 1:4-8

READ

Acts 1:1-8

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. The Book of Acts and the Gospel of Luke were written by the same author. What reason does Dr. Luke give Theophilus for writing these twin volumes (Luke 1:4)? What was Luke's approach in writing (Luke 1:3)? Why is all this important?
2. What were the convincing or infallible proofs of Jesus' resurrection (Acts 1:3; 1 Corinthians 15:5-8)?
3. What colorful word picture does Jesus paint in v. 5? Who first used this word picture (Mark 1:8)? Who is the one doing this baptizing?
4. John the Baptizer includes a feature in his word picture that is not mentioned by Jesus. What is it (Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:16)? Have you ever heard anyone talk about being baptized in the Holy Spirit *and* fire? With what is fire or burning (up) usually associated?
 - Psalm 38:1
 - Psalm 97:3
 - Matthew 13:40
 - John 15:6
 - 1 Corinthians 3:12-15
 - Hebrews 6:7-8
 - Hebrews 10:27
 - Hebrews 12:29Should one desire to be baptized in the Holy Spirit *and* fire?
5. What is the purpose of this promise (v. 8)? What is the validating or confirming mark or

evidence of this promise (c.f., Luke 24:49)? Do a little homework. What does this (word) *power* mean or suggest?

6. What had the apostles previously “heard of from” Jesus about this promise?

- John 14:16-18
- John 14:26-28
- John 15:26-27
- John 16:7-15

How does this differ from their expectations (or preconceptions) of the Holy Spirit? (How did the Holy Spirit typically function in the OT—e.g., 1 Samuel 10:10; 16:13-14; Psalm 51:11?)

7. What is to be the result or fruit of the promise received (v. 8b)? What is its scope? What does that look like in your life (literally draw a picture)? Define what it means to be a witness (“A witness is someone who . . .”). When is this mission to be completed?

8. Why ask about the timing of the restoration of the kingdom (v. 6)? What kingdom do the apostles likely have in mind? How would such a kingdom be restored? What is Jesus’ two-part answer?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

1. I will focus on my “Jerusalem” this week by . . .

2. I will focus on my “Judea and Samaria” this week by . . .

3. I will focus on “the remotest part of the earth” this week by . . .