



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## Road after the Cross – The Coming of the Holy Spirit

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Jesus promised that He would see them after the resurrection. Scripture records at least 10 encounters over 40 days (550+ people) where Jesus appeared to His followers after His resurrection and prior to His ascension. Just prior to His ascension, Jesus commands His apostles not to leave Jerusalem until they receive the Holy Spirit. Jesus promises that they will receive “power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you” (NASB Acts 1:8) and then directs them to be His “witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” (1:8)

### So what did the disciple do?

“Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.” (Acts 1:12)

**The disciples obeyed.** Despite the hostile environment that existed in Jerusalem toward followers of Jesus, the disciples returned across the valley from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem. Despite their fear, they did what Jesus commanded them to do. During the wait for the Holy Spirit, Peter took charge of the gathering (about 120 people) in the upper room and with the disciples after prayer (1:14) made the decision based upon OT Scripture (1:20 - Ps. 109:8 & 69:25) and filled the vacant 12<sup>th</sup> position that had been held by Judas with Matthias.

### They waited for the day...

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. (Acts 2:1-4)

**Jesus’ promise of the coming and of the power of the Holy Spirit fulfilled.** The Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost and the believers were filled that day with the Holy Spirit; the Church was born. The Holy Spirit living in and through them empowered them to speak in other known languages. They spoke in the languages of the people who had gathered from foreign lands (2:5). Jesus’ followers did not naturally know the language prior to their filling of the Holy Spirit.

Many in the crowd were amazed and some mocked the believers and said that they are filled with sweet wine; ‘drunks’.

“But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: “Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words.” (2:14)

**Jesus’ Holy Spirit filled disciples began witnessing.** Peter, the same disciple who denied Jesus 3 time and abandoned Him several weeks prior, is now taking a stand for Jesus. The same is true with all of the other disciples, they denied and scattered during the difficult times, but now are taking a stand, being a witness for Jesus.

### What changed in the disciples?

The power of the Holy Spirit came upon them and they became Jesus’ witnesses starting in Jerusalem and moving to all Judea and Samaria and even to the remotest part of the world!

The book of Acts is about the Holy Spirit working through the Apostles.

### For Your Consideration

- Are you allowing the Holy Spirit to work in your life?
- How will your book read? The Acts of the Holy Spirit through (your name).
- Are you being a witness for Christ?

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## BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: WEDNESDAYS (SESSION OR HEARING DAYS) AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE ROOM 44

STATE STAFF AND LOBBYIST: WEDNESDAYS AT 12:10PM, STATEHOUSE ROOM 44