

# **Jesus' Ministry Continues**

9-1-19

Luke 24:48 (ESV)

**You are witnesses of these things.**

**Jesus' earthly ministry is coming to an end. Yet we see Jesus' Ministry will continue! Those who had been with Jesus will give an account of what they saw and experienced. Jesus also will give them power to confirm their account.**

Luke 24:49 (ESV)

**And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.**

**After this promise Jesus ascends into heaven!**

Luke 24:49 (ESV)

<sup>50</sup> And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. <sup>51</sup> While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

**The book of Acts elaborates on Jesus' ascension.**

Acts 1:9–11 (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, <sup>11</sup> and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

**Luke gives the account of Jesus' continued ministry his second letter to Theophilus, the book of Acts.**

Acts 1:1 (ESV)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus **"began"** to do and teach.

**Note Luke says that in the book of Luke he has recorded all that Jesus "began" to do and teach. Jesus hasn't finished teaching; HE has only begun to teach. The book of Acts records how Jesus will continue what HE started.**

Acts 1:4–5 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup> And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, **"you heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."**

**The Holy Spirit indwells and transforms, and it is the Holy Spirit that will continues what Jesus started.**

Acts 1:8 (ESV)

**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**

**Based on Jesus' promise, **the period in between** Jesus' departure and HIS return the disciples will be empowered by the Holy Spirit to be HIS witnesses. **This is Jesus' spiritual presence continuing HIS earthly ministry while HE is in heaven.** This is consistent to what Jesus said in the book of John.**

John 14:12 (ESV)

**Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.**

**For the first disciples we see this promise dramatically carried out in Acts 2.**

Acts 2:1–3 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> They were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.

**For us today in the church, things are different!**

Romans 7:6 (ESV)

We serve in the new way of the Spirit

**As born again believers, we continually ask God to fill us and empower us with the Holy Spirit.**

Ephesians 5:18 (ESV)

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.

How do we practically apply this powerful truth? **WE ASK!** Before we go into a **meeting** with very difficult people, we ask, “Holy Spirit fill me, give me the words to speak and give me wisdom to bring peace.” A difficult **family** situation we ask, “Holy Spirit fill me and give me words of healing.” We have **studied** for an exam or **prepared** for a tough briefing, we ask, “Holy fill me and bring to mind all the information I have studied and prepared.” A difficult financial **decision** or career **decision**, we say, “Holy Spirit fill me, give me wisdom, and bring to mind the proper questions to ask.” **Through the Holy Spirit we purposely bring God into our daily living and decision-making. The Holy Spirit will fill us many times when don’t ask.** However we should ask the Holy Spirit to fill us in **every situation** of our schedule, finances, and leisure time. God is interested! **We have power from on high to do all the things God desires. Nothing is impossible for God therefore nothing is impossible for us.** We must ask! But there is only one-way to embrace the fullness of God, Jesus Christ!

1 Timothy 2:5 (ESV)

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

**Prophetic Team**

*Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.*