

PREPARATION FOR THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH, Pt. 1 (Acts 1:1-11)

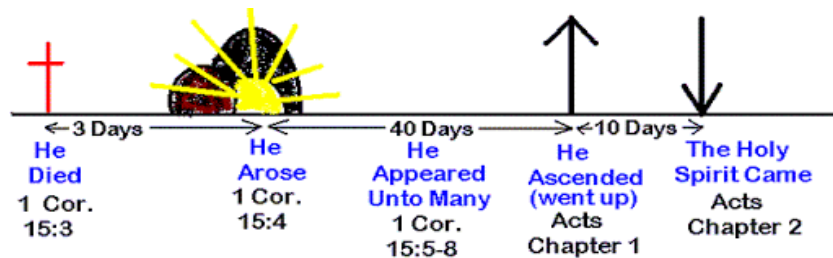
I. THE CHURCH'S WITNESS FOR CHRIST IN JERUSALEM (1-7)

A. The BIRTH of the CHURCH in JERUSALEM (1-2)

1. Preparation for the Birth of the Church (1:1-26)

a) Introduction to Acts – The Sequel to Luke (1:1-3)

- *How do we know Luke wrote Acts & what do we know about him?* (16:10-17; 20:5-21:18; 27:1-28:16; Col. 4:14)
- *Why should Luke-Acts be viewed as a unit?*
- *Who was Theophilus and why is this significant?* (Luke 1:3-4)
- *Does the Gospel of Luke focus on Jesus but Acts on the Holy Spirit and the apostles?*



- *What did Jesus do during the 40-day interval between His resurrection and ascension?*

b) Christ's Final Earthly Instruction of the Apostles (1:4-8)

1) In preparation for the birth of the Church, Christ instructed the apostles to stay in Jerusalem and _____ for the "Promise of the Father" (vv. 4-5), in reference to the _____ of the _____ (John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26-27; Acts 2:33; Gal. 3:14; Eph. 1:13), which would come in just _____.

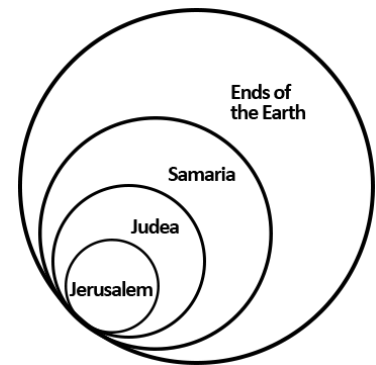
- *What would this accomplish and why was it necessary?*
- *Did this ever occur with Old Testament saints?*
- *Is there a difference between the baptism "with" the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5) vs. "by" the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13) as many Charismatics and Pentecostals claim?*

2) In preparation for the birth of the Church, clarification about the _____ was necessary, especially regarding its _____. (vv. 6-7)

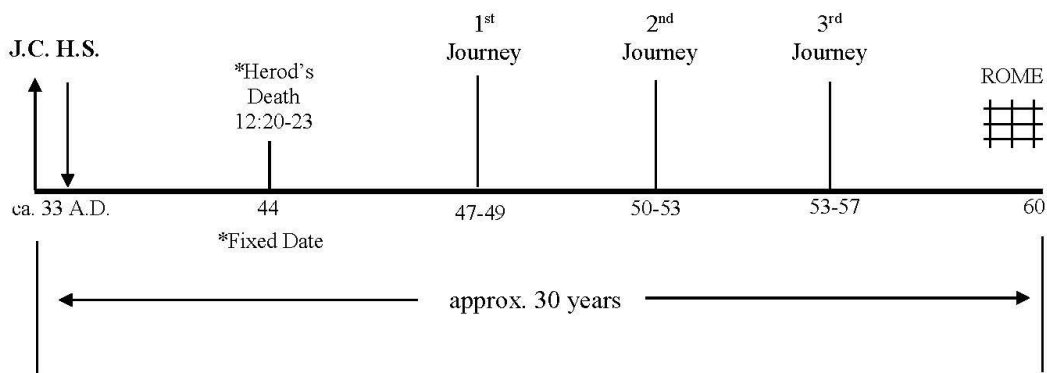
- *Why couldn't the apostles know when the kingdom will come?*
- *Do Acts 1:3, 6-7 and the rest of Acts teach that the kingdom is already present in the Church?*
- *What do these verses imply about Israel's place in God's future kingdom plans? (Rom. 9-11)*

3) Rather than the kingdom being established, the apostles (and Church) would receive _____ from the _____ to be _____ for Christ. (v. 8; John 15:26-27; Eph. 5:18; Mark 14:66-72 cf. Acts 4:8, 13)

- *Where would the apostles witness for Christ?*
- *What does this say about the pattern & plan of Acts?*



c) Christ's Ascension to Heaven (1:9-11)



- *How is Christ's ascension described?*
- *How does Christ's ascension relate to His second coming?*
- *Why is Christ's ascension so significant?*