

THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH

Acts 1:1-8

INTRODUCTION

What is the purpose of the Book of Acts? IT IS ALL ABOUT THE LIVING LORD JESUS CHRIST WORKING IN HIS CHURCH.

- I. THE BEGINNING OF THE WORK WAS DIRECTED BY JESUS**
 - A. JESUS STARTED THE FIRST MOVEMENT OF CHRISTIANITY
 - B. JESUS HAS NEVER CEASED TO DIRECT THE WORK OF HIS CHURCH

- II. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS PROMISED BY JESUS**
 - A. HE TOLD THEM TO WAIT IN JERUSALEM FOR THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER
 - B. THE HOLY SPIRIT PREPARED THEM FOR THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

- III. THE BUSINESS OF HIS CHURCH WAS DEFINED BY JESUS**
 - A. THE EARLY DISCIPLES WERE CONFUSED ABOUT THE NATURE OF HIS BUSINESS
 - B. HE STATED THAT THEIR BUSINESS WAS TO BE HIS WITNESSES

- IV. THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CHURCH WERE DETERMINED BY JESUS**
 - A. HE TELLS US TO BEGIN AT HOME
 - B. HE TELLS US TO GO TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

CONCLUSION

There are several decisions we need to make today.

1. We need to acknowledge that the church belongs to Jesus
2. We need to decide once again that we will seek His will
3. We need to decide that we will give Him all the glory
4. We need to decide that our true purpose is to be His witnesses
5. We need to decide that the Great Commission is still our mandate
6. We need to decide that we will work faithfully until He comes again
7. We need to decide that we will continue to give generously to support the work
8. We need to decide that we are here to serve Him
9. We need to decide that reaching people for Jesus is our first priority