

BOOK OF ACTS

"...Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?"

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me." ACTS 1:6, 1:8.

Here are...WORDS CONCERNING DEEDS. Acts of the Holy Spirit through the Apostles; expansion of the Gospel into all the world. "They went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen" MARK 16:20

No ancient writing is well tested as ACTS, because no other has such numerous points of contact in all directions with contemporary history.

Jesus is dominant in the Gospels; The Spirit of Jesus in the Acts... He is the only continuous personality from first to last. The first twelve chapters group about Peter, the remaining sixteen about Paul, but distinctly above both they all group about the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the LORD, the Spirit of Jesus is mentioned some sixty times...HE is the one dominant factor throughout.

ACTS stands alone, and is the source from which we derive knowledge of the most momentous facts which belong to foundations of our Christian Faith...The first fourth of ACTS is fairly aflame with the Holy Spirit's presence at the center---Jerusalem. Thence out to Samaria, and thru the Cornelius door to the whole outside Roman world; at Antioch the new center, and thence through the uttermost parts of the Empire into its heart...ROME.

The Holy Spirit is the presence recognized and obeyed. He is ceaselessly guiding, empowering, inspiring, checking, controlling, clear to the abrupt end of the Book...And, everywhere His presence is a transforming presence!

The Holy Spirit is God in action!

Nothing short of startling is the 'change' in Peter, in the 'attitude' of the Jerusalem thousands, in the 'persecutor' Saul, in the spirit of these disciples is the unprecedented and unparalleled unselfishness shown. It is revolutionary! It was meant to be so...

These were convinced of Truth, yielded to Truth, transformed by the Truth and an incarnation of the Truth by the coming of the Holy Spirit!

ACTS is the living illustration of what Jesus meant by His teaching regarding His successor...HOLY SPIRIT manifest in His followers. Here is active illustration what the personal 'high calling' of the holy Christian life is meant to be.

All this explains the indomitable energy, the fervent devotion, whereby thru trial and temptation, His disciples entered into triumph, and were able to win for the Redeemer, from east to west, from north to south, those rich triumphs of grace, of lives changed and consecrated to the glory of God and His Kingdom.

Well may the ACTS be called...The Gospel of the Holy Spirit!