

# Who needs Deep-Level Healing

△ Acts 1:1-11

## Different themes in this passage

Introduction to Acts

Proof that Jesus has risen

Chosen apostles

The Promise of the Holy Spirit  
coming upon the Apostles

Where is Jesus

Escatology or what will happen in  
the future

## Introduction to Acts

Part II to the Gospel of Luke

Also dedicated to Theophilus

Luke's patron?

Cannot read Acts without Gospel of  
Luke

The summary is too short to make sense  
otherwise

## Quick summary of Luke

### Proof that Jesus has risen

<sup>3</sup> After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God

These are stories that are hinted at, but not all documented in any of the gospels

The 40 days is significant timing between Easter and the Ascension

### Chosen Apostles

By now the Eleven

As Judas had fallen away

Apostle derived from the Greek verb "Apostello", which means "to send"

The Apostles are chosen to carry on the Mission

### The Promise of the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles

As per the intro, Jesus tells his Apostles to wait on the gift of the

Holy Spirit

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Why?

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Jesus gave them an mission

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The mission is to be witnessess in the whole world

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Jerusalem -> Judea -> Samaria ->  
Ends to the Earth

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But they cannot do this in their own strenght

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So Jesus promises them the gift of the Holy Spirit

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To empower them

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In the rest of Acts we see what that empowered means:  
Preaching, Healing and Deliverance

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But also strength, motivation and perserverance

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So although Jesus sends them, he does not send them without his presence in the form of the Holy Spirit

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So that they can become effective witnesses

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Where is Jesus?

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The kev of the storv is Jesus'

## ascension

Reminiscent of the departure of Elijah

in a fiery chariot

<sup>^</sup> 2 Kings 2:11

Jesus after his resurrection never died,  
but ascended into heaven

unlike Lazarus

## The cloud could symbolise God

As the cloud that symbolises the  
presence of God when Israel was in  
the desert

<sup>9</sup> The Lord said to Moses, "I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, so that the people will hear me speaking with you and will always put their trust in you." Then Moses told the Lord what the people had said.

<sup>^</sup> Exod 19:9

So in a sense Jesus ascended into  
God's place

So not necessary meaning that Heaven is  
upward....

## The angels tell the apostles that he is in Heaven

<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. <sup>11</sup> "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here

looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven ...

^ Acts 1:10-11b

## Seated at the right hand of God

### Acts

<sup>31</sup> Seeing what was to come, [David] spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. <sup>32</sup> God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. <sup>33</sup> Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.

^ Acts 2:31-33

<sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,  
“The Lord said to my Lord:  
“Sit at my right hand  
<sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies  
a footstool for your feet.”

### Romans

Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the **right hand** of God and is also interceding for us.

^ Romans 8:34

Escatology or what will  
happen in the future

## Happen in the future

At the end the angels state: ...[He] will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Jesus will return!

But the focus of Acts is on the mission without Jesus physically present, but with the Holy Spirit as guide and empowerer

## What does this mean for us

We are send as well

The mission that Jesus gives to the Apostles is not only for them

In Matthew Jesus commissioned the Apostles:

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

△ Matt 29:18-20

Teaching them everything I have commanded you

So we have inherited the mission that the Apostles received from them.

Like them Jesus wants us to be witnesses to him

Not only from what we have learned in the Bible

But also what he has done in our lives

## We cannot do this without help

But like the Apostles, we cannot do that without help

We also need to empowering of the Holy Spirit

Next week is Pentecost, when we remember the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles

But unlike the Apostles we do not need to wait, as the Holy Spirit is here with us already

And he is ready and available for us to receive his empowering presence upon us

But are we ready?

Amen