

The Wait, The Promise, and The Power
New Beech Grove Baptist Church
Bible Study 7 pm
04/28/2026

Overview: The wait and the fulfilment of the promise in Acts is one of the most interesting pieces before we get the Holy Spirit, on the day of Pentecost. Tonight, I would like to go over the piece of the story that is in between, the resurrection and the promise. What does it have to say to us? What does this mean for us? Because of Jesus, we should have received the Holy Spirit, but it does not remove the fight of waiting on the promises of God that some of us are waiting on. There is always fresh revelation and tonight I hope this helps us when we are in between the wait and the promise.

Scripture Text: Acts 4:-11

⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with^[a] water, but in a few days you will be baptized with^[b] the Holy Spirit.”

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹“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, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Text Background:

- The book of Acts is oftentimes considered with two notions: The Acts of the Holy Spirit or the Acts of the Apostles.
- The writer Luke.
- The connection between this narrative and the gospel is found in the beginning of Acts 1:1-3.
- We see the accounts of how the Holy Spirit is working through these selected men, and how the establishment of the church.

Scripture Lesson:

1. Vs. 4-5 We see the repetition of what was promised by Christ.

- a. Jesus promised His disciples would receive the Holy Spirit - John 7:37-39 & John 14:16-17. We see supporting scriptures from the prophets Joel 2:28-29 & Ezekiel 36:26-27.

When God has you in the waiting season, God will _____ you of the promises that He made to you!

2. Vs. 4-5 We see there is more than one person that is waiting on the promise.

- a. It is not singular, it is actually collective. Maybe this passage of scripture is teaching us about not waiting alone, but the power that comes in accountability.

Sometimes in your waiting season, you need likeminded people who also could be waiting on a promise to keep you grounded so that you don't _____ something that you have become impatient to wait on.

3. Vs. 8 This verse shows us the necessity of power because power is always given with a purpose.

- a. The promise is that you will receive the Holy Spirit.
- b. We see the purpose of having the Holy Spirit, which is the God-given power to be witnesses to people that we are assigned to. When you study the books of Acts, you'll understand the different uses of the power given to us through the Holy Spirit dwelling inside of us. However, the different uses of power do not change the purpose, which is to witness. The content of witnessing is the power found in the cross.

The Holy Spirit _____ and _____ us being able to receive the power.

4. Vs. 8

- a. You can't expect to take over everywhere if you haven't taken over your own house. We see a marginalized notation here in the different areas that are mentioned. Jesus is very clear, as we see in Matthew 28: "Go ye therefore, making disciples." Jerusalem is where they currently are. Judea is a certain distance away. Samaria represents those who do not like you. The ends of the earth speaks of taking the Gospel beyond.

The relevancy of it is you can't leave your _____ out of being a part of your witness.

Conclusion:

The wait is necessary in order for you to receive the promise. The promise is necessary in order for you to receive the power, but the purpose of the power is to evangelize, to witness, and to share the story of Jesus Christ. Don't get so stuck on the use of the power that you forget the reason for the power.