

God sent His Holy Spirit and Spread His church to the ends of the earth.

1. Christ Commissioned Believers, the Church Started in Jerusalem.

Acts 1-7

- a. Christ appeared, ascended to God (1), and believers were filled with the Holy Spirit (2).
- b. Peter explained Pentecost (2), healed a lame man, preached (3), and was silenced (4).
- c. The church was organized by apostles, persecuted (4-5) and Stephen was martyred (6-7).

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth,” ... “And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ... praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved,”

Acts 1:8 ... 2:42-44 ... 47

2. Philip and Peter Witnessed in Judea and Samaria; Saul was Converted.

Acts 8-12

- a. Philip witnessed in Samaria (8). Saul was blinded, filled with the Spirit, and preached (9).
- b. Peter healed and preached to Gentiles (10), and “Christians” were named in Antioch (11).
- c. Herod killed James, Peter was released from prison, and Herod died a blasphemer (12).

“Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, ‘He is the Son of God.’” ... “So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied,” Acts 9:17-20 ... 31

3. Paul Took the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth—In Three Mission Trips.

Acts 13-28

- a. Barnabas and Paul (Saul) went from Antioch to Cyprus, Iconium, and Lystra (13-14).
- b. The Jerusalem Council met (15), and Paul went through Asia, Greece, and back (16-18).
- c. Paul went to Galatia, Ephesus, Macedonia, and all the way to prison in Rome (18-28).

“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship,” Acts 20:35-38

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