

Acts 1:8 Sermon Outline
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But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

TEXT: Acts 1:8

THEME: God commands His people to be His witnesses.

- 1 – WHO: The People
- 2 – WHAT: The Power
- 3 – WHERE: The Places

PURPOSE: To challenge Christians to be obedient to the Great Commission

TITLE: "Energized to Evangelize"

I. INTRODUCTION

A. The Book of Acts:

1. was written by Luke and is the first work recorded on church history,
2. records the first three decades of the church's existence,
3. is a historical narrative of the church,
4. is the only historical sequel to the four gospels,
5. gives us basic information and insights into the early church, and
6. marks the transition from God working primarily with Jesus, to His establishment of the universal church.

B. Chapter one of Acts gives us a view of a "spiritual relay."

1. Jesus has run His part, and then passed the baton to His chosen apostles.
2. Now the baton is in our hands.

C. I am afraid that if we were running according to the rules of disqualification from a sprint relay, we would be disqualified for either:

1. dropping the baton, or
2. making an improper baton change, or maybe even
3. making false starts.

II. Jesus' Challenge to His Disciples (:6-9)

A. "Lord, will you at this time give back the kingdom to Israel?" (6).

1. At first the disciples saw Christianity as merely an extension of Judaism.
2. Jesus answers: (:7)
 - a. "it is not for you to know the times or the seasons,"
 - b. I will not bring in the kingdom—but you will establish this kingdom

by your witness, and

c. the Holy Spirit will empower you to carry this witness to the ends of the earth.

3. Jesus did not want them to be so concerned with “times and seasons.”

B. Jesus had a task for them and us: (:8)

1. People: “you shall receive...”

a. “you” – Jesus’ apostles, disciples; us

2. Power: “power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;’

a. “power”

1.) “dunamin” – to enable them; (from dunamai, to be able), to grapple with the spread of the gospel in the world.

2.) not political power, but the power of the Holy Spirit

b. “and you shall be witnesses unto Me”

1.) “witness” – Greek word, meaning martyr, one who dies for his faith

a.) “you shall be My witnesses”

b.) "His by a direct personal relationship" (Knowling).

2.) When the Holy Spirit comes upon them, their witness is "unto the uttermost part of the earth."

3. Places: “in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

a.) Jerusalem

Richmond

b.) Judea

Virginia

c.) Samaria

United States of America

d.) “end of the earth”

world

D. PRACTICAL POINTS:

1. You and I are now running in this “spiritual relay.”

2. QUESTIONS:

a. Are you running to win?

b. Have you dropped or made an improper baton change?

c. Have you been guilty of making false starts?

d. is your church an Acts 1:8 church through giving to the Cooperative Program, which supports missionaries in our “Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the end of the earth?”

III. CONCLUSION: We have been “Energized to Evangelize!”

A. We have received enabling power to spread the gospel to the world.

B. We are His witnesses everywhere we go.

C. Let us conquer the world for Jesus Christ!

D. Let us be obedient to Christ’s command, since we have been “Energized to Evangelize!”

IV. INVITATION: Steps to peace with God:

A. ADMIT that you are a sinner.

B. REPENT and be willing to turn from your sin.

C. BELIEVE that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross.

D. RECEIVE, through prayer, Jesus Christ into your heart and life.

E. PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins. I want to turn from my sins. I now invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as Lord and Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen.