

Sunday School Lesson

November 28, 2021

POWER TO BUILD

Acts 1:1-8

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1

Questions for Us Today

What kind of power do you have?

2

How have you used it?

How will you use it?

Sunday School Lesson Segments

November 28, 2021

1. Luke: Points of Information
2. Acts: Points of Information
3. Power to Build: Context
4. Power to Build: Lesson Text

3

Points of Information – Luke

Luke, who was a Gentile (not a Jew), was a medical doctor by training. In Colossians 4:14, the Apostle Paul called Luke “the beloved physician.”

4

Luke was not one of the original Twelve Disciples, chosen by Christ Jesus.

Dr. Luke accompanied the Apostle Paul on his missionary journeys.

Points of Information – Luke

5

In addition to the Gospel bearing his name, Dr. Luke also wrote The Acts of the Apostles. In this Book, Luke detailed momentous events in Christian history: including the monumental Day of Pentecost, the stoning of Stephen (the first Christian martyr), the Damascus Road conversion of Saul/Paul etc. It is believed that Luke may have written at least one more Book of Scripture, which has been lost.

Points of Information – Acts

6

This Book was written by Dr. Luke likely some time between A.D. 60 and 65, before the death of the Apostle Paul (approx. between A.D. 66 and 68) and before the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem (A.D. 70). Neither of these events was mentioned by the master historian, Luke.

Points of Information – Acts

7

Jesus directed His Disciples to take the message of the Gospel to all of the world – not just to the Jews. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) makes this clear. In the Book of Acts, Luke shows that this Divine command is obeyed and fulfilled.

Points of Information – Acts

8

Luke's close friendship and ministerial partnership with the Apostle Paul enabled him to bear expert witness to the spread of the Gospel. This is evidenced throughout the Book of The Acts of the Apostles.

Power to Build – Context (Part 1)

- Transitioning from the Gospel of Luke, in particular.
- Transitioning from all of the Gospels, in general, to the Epistles / Letters (especially those of the Apostle Paul).

Power to Build – Context (Part 2)

- Post Crucifixion and Resurrection Period
- Jesus is spending time with His Disciples and teaching them further.
- Luke documents this and underscores the fact of the Resurrection.
- Luke tells of Christ's promise of the Holy Spirit, to empower the Disciples – and all believers.

Power to Build

Acts 1:1-8

Acts 1:1-2 (NRSV)

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day He was taken up to Heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen.

[Note: The "first book" refers to the Gospel according to Luke.]

Acts 1:3

After His suffering, He presented Himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the Kingdom of God.

Acts 1:4-5

While staying with them, He ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," He said, "is what you have heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

[Note: See John 1:25-33.]

Acts 1:6

So when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the Kingdom to Israel?"

Acts 1:7

He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by His own authority.

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 1:9 – The Ascension!

When He had said this, as they were watching He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight.
[HALLELUJAH!]

A Song for Us today:

There is Power in the Blood (of the Lamb)

Bibliography (Part 1)

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