

# Sermon Handout

## Acts of the Holy Ghost

### Acts 1:1-5

#### I. Luke-Acts is a single work of two volumes

##### a. The Gospel – Volume 1

What Jesus **began** to do and teach Acts 1:1

Accounts by eyewitnesses “from the beginning” Lk 1:2

Luke himself was acquainted with the facts “from the first” Lk 1:3a

Sets forth the story “methodically” Lk 1:3b

So Theophilus may have certainty concerning his understanding v. 4

##### b. The Acts – Volume 2

What Jesus **continues** to do through the empowered Apostles

Overlapping stories: Lk 24:49-53; Acts 1:2-11

Key parallels in the narrative

A The Holy Spirit “overshadows” Mary (Jesus’ birth) Lk 1:35

A<sup>1</sup> The Holy Spirit “comes upon” the church Acts 1:8 *cf.* 2:2-4; 38

B Luke relates healing & teaching by Jesus

B<sup>1</sup> Acts relates healing & teaching by the Apostles

C “things concerning Jesus” Lk 24:27, 44

C<sup>1</sup> “things concerning the Kingdom of God” Acts 1:3

#### II. Prominence of the Holy Ghost in the Book of Acts (56 occurrences)

##### a. The work of Jesus and of the Holy Ghost in Acts are inseparable

1<sup>st</sup> occurrence: 1:2 – the commands of Jesus are “through” the H.S.

Connected with baptism:

Jesus’ own baptism Acts 10:38 *cf.* John 1:29-34; Lk 3:21-22; 4:18-21

“Baptism” of the Holy Ghost foretold by Jesus 1:5 *cf.* Lk 24:49; 3:16

##### b. Pentecost is anticipated by Jesus – Jn 20:22 “breathed” *cf.* LXX Gen 2:7

“receive” in Jn 20; “you shall receive” in Acts 1

Life is breathed into the “new man” – visibly demonstrated in Acts 2:3-4

##### c. Post-Pentecost, Apostles act in the power of the H.S. (healing & teaching)

Acts 3:6; 4:10; 5:40; 7:55; 9:3-5, 17

##### d. Holy Ghost empowerment accompanies true conversion in key locations

Acts 2:4; 6:3; 8:14-17; 10:44; 19:6

Hence fulfilling the progression set forth in Acts 1:8 (*cf.* Mt 28:18-20)

The church is worldwide, including Jew & Gentile in a New Covenant People

Jesus protects the church as it grows among the Gentiles Acts 18:9-10