

**January 15, 2023**  
**Acts 1:4-14**  
**“This Same Jesus . . .”**

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

The disciples were right in their thoughts about the coming kingdom, Jesus had spoken of this on many occasions. They wanted to know the time of the coming of the kingdom. In short, this was the Father’s business, theirs would be to share the gospel with the whole world!

They were to be witnesses for Jesus. This witness was to go to the ends of the earth. This witness would not, could not happen until they were first supernaturally empowered by the Holy Spirit.

**Verses 9-11** describe our Lord’s Ascension into heaven but they also anticipate His return. Jesus will come back in bodily form just like they saw Him go up.

The apostles gathered upstairs. They were most likely praying over what had been said in **verse 4**, waiting on the coming of the promised Holy Spirit. Since the day of Pentecost no one has ever needed to pray that again!

The kingdom will be established at the Second Coming. See **Matthew 25:31-34**. This time remains unrevealed, see **Mark 13:32-33**.

Mary and the half brothers of Jesus along with other women were there as well. James and Jude were Jesus’ half-brothers. Just 8 months earlier **John 7:5** records they did not believe at that time, probably after the resurrection, they believed. This half-brother, James, became the first head of the Jerusalem church, see **Acts 12:17; 15:13ff**.

**Application:**

When they were given a promise, they believed. When the Lord instructed, go, they went. When they were to remain, they remained. While they waited, they lived in harmony in constant prayer. This portion of Scripture gives us an incentive to live with urgency and passion for Jesus like never before. Let’s continue in the pattern set forth in the early church of laboring in prayer, living together in harmony, and with the express purpose of getting the whole Word out to the whole world. This same Jesus is coming back, live in obedience to His Word, serve Him with your whole heart!