

January 22, 2023

Acts 1:15-26 "That The Scriptures Be Fulfilled"

**PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

Peter had a high view of the O.T. Judas' betrayal was predicted in [Psalm 69:25;109:8](#).

To make this choice the apostles did two things, they prayed and then they drew lots which is essentially making it the Lord's choice, not that of mere men. This is the last time it is said in the Bible that lots were used to determine God's will. [Proverbs 16:33](#) confirms that the use of lots was used to determine the Lord's will.

Some say Matthias was not a legitimate choice, it should have been Paul in this place. The argument against this line of thought may be found in part in [Acts 2:14](#) where Peter stood up with the eleven, his recognition of Matthias as legitimate is evident. Also [Acts 6:2](#) identifies the group as "the twelve." Also, Paul did not meet the first qualification listed below.

The requirements: **(1)**to have accompanied the apostles all the time that Jesus was with them. This time began with the baptism of Jesus until the day of the ascension into heaven. **(2)**The one to be selected must be a witness along with the other 11 of the resurrection. He must have seen the resurrected Christ. (Personal eyewitnesses of the risen Lord Jesus). The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of the Christian faith. Meditate on [I Corinthians 15](#). Paul's background, ministry, and call were in many ways different from those of the Twelve. Yet, he insisted on equality with them in regard to his office of being an apostle.

Two men met the qualifications but which one? The third qualification was that he would be chosen by Jesus, by casting lots. After Pentecost the church would make decisions under the direction of the Holy Spirit, no more lot casting after this in the NT.

**Application:**

When the church was instructed to gather, they did, about 120 of them. They prayed together. While they were waiting for the promised coming of the Holy Spirit, they, in a spirit of unity, held a church meeting! There was the business of filling the office of apostle that Judas had forsaken while they waited. The right, qualified, Jesus selected man was chosen. Unity and prayer along with trust in the Lord and His Word are the strong building blocks of a church that honors the Lord.