



Woodmont Beacon

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Acts 1-9 Summary – The Early Church

By: Steven Locklair

In the book of Acts, Luke writes of the thrilling fulfillment of many prophecies in Jesus Christ and the establishment and the growth of His church. The apostles would fulfill the Great Commission of Christ to preach to every creature beginning in Jerusalem, then Judea, Samaria, and the rest of the world.

In Acts 1, Jesus, who had been raised from the dead, taught His apostles about the kingdom of God for 40 days, He promised that they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days, He would ascend into heaven, He promised to return in the same way He left, and Judas was replaced by Matthias as an apostle.

In Acts 2, all the Jews from every nation that came to Jerusalem for the Day of Pentecost were amazed and astonished by what they saw and heard, which gave the opportunity for Peter to preach the words of the Holy Spirit, as authorized by Christ. He preached the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ and convicted the people that they had all taken part in having Him crucified, and about 3,000 were baptized. The Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

In Acts 3-4, the religious leaders arrested Peter and John in order to intimidate them into silence, but instead, the number of disciples increased to 5,000, after they healed a lame man at the Beautiful Gate (which was obvious to all who lived in Jerusalem). The church was at peace, united, and were helping needy saints, but the devil continued his efforts to hinder the gospel.

In Acts 5, Ananias and Sapphira gave in to the devil's temptation to lie about how much they gave and received the death penalty from the Lord, which brought great fear to the church. Instead of quitting, the church continued to flourish and grow by leaps and bounds. The religious leaders imprisoned the apostles, but an angel of the Lord delivered them, and they boldly preached in the temple. When the officers arrested them again, the apostles refused to heed the warnings of the Sanhedrin and continued to preach the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. This infuriated the officials so much they wanted to kill them, but Gamaliel talked them out of it. The apostles were flogged with more stern warnings, but instead of complaining about their suffering, they rejoiced that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.

Woodmont church of Christ

Sunday Morning

Bible Classes for all ages at 9:30
Worship Assembly at 10:30

Sunday Afternoon

Worship Assembly at 5:00

Wednesday Evening

Bible Classes for all ages at 7:30

Evangelist

Steven Locklair

Elders

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Welcome visitors!

You are our honored guest. Please take a moment to complete a visitor's card and let us know if there is anything we can do for you in a spiritual way. We would love to study the Bible further with you or talk about the church here at Woodmont if you are new to the area or would like to become a member.

Acts 1-9 Summary, cont.

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In Acts 6-7, another issue arose in the church. When the Hellenistic Jews complained against the native Hebrews about their widows being overlooked, the 12 apostles told the disciples at Jerusalem to choose seven men to take care of it, while they would devote themselves to prayer and ministry of the word. God's word continued to spread and many priests were becoming obedient to the faith. Stephen, one of the seven on whom the apostles laid their hands, was then able to perform signs and wonders. The Synagogue of the Freedmen couldn't refute Stephen's preaching, so they made false accusations against him, which gave him the opportunity to make his defense and preach a sermon, which cut the hearts of the people. Instead of converting them, they stoned him to death.

In Acts 8, there was a great persecution against the church, as Saul sent the saints to the slammer, and the rest of the disciples had to scatter throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria. Instead of being afraid, they boldly proclaimed the word wherever they went. In Samaria, Simon the sorcerer had been deceiving the people by claiming to have the power of God, but when he saw the true miracles, he believed and was baptized. When he gave into temptation to desire to buy the gift of God with money, Peter told him to repent and pray for forgiveness, which he did willingly. An Ethiopian eunuch was converted after Philip preached Jesus to him. He rejoiced after he was baptized, not before. Baptism is not sprinkling or pouring, as demonstrated in this example. They both went down into the water and came up out of it.

In Acts 9, Saul, on his way to Damascus, was blinded by the light, and the Lord told Saul that he was persecuting Him. He was instructed to go into the city to be told what to do. Saul was fasting and praying for three days. The Lord told Ananias to meet Saul on Straight Street and, after assuring Ananias that he didn't have to fear Saul any longer, he went and then baptized Saul. Saul immediately began preaching that Jesus Christ is the Son of God at Damascus, and the people are amazed. The Jews plotted to kill Saul, but the disciples helped him to escape. When Saul desired to join the disciples at Jerusalem, they were afraid. Barnabas testified, on Saul's behalf, that he was truly converted to Christ, and he was able to preach in Jerusalem. When the Jews tried to kill him there, the disciples brought him down to Caesarea and then to Tarsus, his hometown. The church was at peace in Judea, Galilee, and Samaria. Tabitha the benevolent widow was raised from the dead, and many believe in the Lord in Joppa.

Noteworthy News

-**Gayle Webster** went to a new rehab Wednesday after being in Harris Southwest last week.

-**Shirley Thompson** is in a lot of pain and hopes to get stronger medicine. Their daughter, Julie, had to have her right leg amputated above the knee after a major infection, and they had to take a toe on her left foot.

-**June Moore** continues to need platelets and chemo. She is lonely with the no visitor policy and encourages all to donate platelets.

-**Dennis Scroggins** will begin an oral chemotherapy soon after receiving word that his cancer has returned.

-Recovering from surgeries: **Bruce Tilley, Joy Narmore, Gary & Gayle Webster, Julie Perkins**

-Several facilities are in lockdown. This affects the **Moore & Evelyn Anderson**.

Remember **Julie Perkins, Tom & Shirley Thompson, Andrew & Jennifer Locklair, David & Robert Jones, Brett's mom, Katy Jones, Barbara Johnson, Dottie Burns, June Moore, Stan Cox, Kevin & Cassie Williams, Dennis Scroggins, Gaylon Brown, Bruce Tilley, Bonnie Gary, Marie Bolton, Ron Daley, Jan King, Lonell Plyler, Melissa Simpson, Jan Gay, Dora Frisbee, Jenny Hardwick, Donna Lewis, Jackie Branch, Paul Simpson, Melodie Smith, Chip Foster, Terry Jordan, Auree Noll.**



Prayer Requests

Sick/Shut-In:

- **Ada Scott**
- **Bill and June Moore**
- **Jan Gay**
- **Gary & Gayle Webster**
- **Dennis Scroggins**
- **Katy Jones**
- **Kevin Williams, Sr.**
- **Joy Narmore**

Our Elders

- **Bruce Tilley**
- **Brett Narmore**

Our Deacons

- **Jeff Gary**
- **Gary Webster**
- **Kyle Austin**

Calendar

Men We Support

- **Dennis Scroggins**