

**Series:**    **The Unstoppable Church**

**Title:**     **Preparation for Empowerment**

**Test:**     **(Acts 1)**

The Acts of the Apostles is a unique book in the NT.  
A firm pattern for the church regarding practice.

It is a divinely ordered pattern of how God organized  
the local church, its priorities, & how it should operate

The author is Luke.

It picks up where the gospel of Luke left off. **Luke 2.0**

Written 65 AD, Paul's 1st imprisonment @ Rome.

It is our History Book of the NT.

It Documents the Explosive spread of the Gospel.

The Apostle Peter is prominent in the first 12 chapters  
Chapter 13 on, the focus is upon the Apostle Paul.

**Jesus is the Builder of His Church:**

Jesus said ...(Matt 16:18) "*I will build my church*"

*upon this rock* (Speaking of Himself)

*I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not  
prevail against it.*

**Jesus is the Head and Founder of His Church:**

(Col 1:18) *And he is the head of the body, the church:  
who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that  
in all things he might have the preeminence.*

**Jesus Christ Birthed His Church in [Judea: vs 17]**

(Luke 6:12-13) *he went out into a mountain to pray,  
& continued all night in prayer to God. 13 & when it  
was day, he called unto him his disciples: & of them  
he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;*

(1 Cor 12:28) *And God hath set some in the church,  
first apostles,*

**Jesus Bought His Church on Calvary:**

(Acts 20:28b) *The church of God, which he hath  
purchased with his own blood.*

**Jesus said His Church would be Unstoppable:**

Jesus said ...(Matt 16:18) "*upon this rock I will build  
my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail  
against it.*"

Like a Freight Train running with all its engines  
pulling, it would be Unstoppable.

The Book of Acts documents the Spread of the  
Gospel, from its beginning with the Church at  
Jerusalem.

To Its explosive growth throughout the known world  
by its replication into multiple churches.

God has always planned to use the Local church as  
His means of taking the Gospel to the World.

Col 1:18) Why is he is the head of the body, the church

*... that in all things he might have the preeminence.*

**Jesus chose to glorified through His church.**

(Eph 3:21) *Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end.*

The book of Acts is not only our History book. It is our Operations Manual for all of His Churches.

He started with the Apostles, build on to it with (Eph 4:11-16)

*\*12 for the edifying of the body of Christ. Edify: To build it up and make it Unstoppable!*

***It is our desire that the Church of Jesus Christ: The First Baptist Church of Kingstowne Be Unstoppable.***

So lets study the Book of Acts & follow their example

Ch 1 details the 10 days between the ascension of Jesus Christ and the day of Pentecost.

**1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,**

*“Former Treatise” - The Gospel of Luke.*

*“Theophilus” ~ A Friend of God*

(Luke 1:1-4) Written to give ‘Certainty’ ~ Assurance.

**(1b)“of all that Jesus began both to do and teach”**

**(2) Until the day in which he was taken up,**

(40 Days from the Resurrection to Ascension)

**after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:**

**Luke’s** gospel is the story of Christ’s Physical Body.

**Acts** is the story of His spiritual body.

What Christ began to do & teach in Luke 1, is still happening in Christ’s New Body, the church.

As documented in The book of Acts (Luke 2.0)

Are you a Part of Christ’s NEW Body?

As a member of this church, you are a part of Christ’ New body.

**“after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:”**

*Illus: Like a hand animates a leather glove, so Christ animates and works through the members of His New Body - **YOU!***

(Judges 6:34) *“the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon” - God wore Gideon like a suit!*

Your Greatest Ability for God is your Availability!  
*That no flesh should glory in his presence. (1Cor1:29)*

*Jesus said ... (Matt 16:18) "I will build my church"*

**Jesus said HE would Do the Work!**

Stop TRYING & start TRUSTING God.

Stop Bowing Up & Bow down!

Stop Praying for your Pursuits & Pray for Power!

What God Began in LUKE 1

God Continued in LUKE 2

God is Continuing to DO Today @ FBCK!

God is STILL WORKING, He never Stopped!

***Are you on board with God's program, or are you working your own thing?***

Are you a part of His new body?

Are you a part of God's plan, or your Own?

**3 To whom** (The Apostles)

**also he shewed himself alive** (Upper Room)

**after his passion** (Crucifixion/Resurrection)

**by many infallible proofs** ~ Cannot be proven false:

(1 Cor 15:5-8) (\*6) 500+

(Lk 24:39-43) Physical Body, He ate physical food.

**being seen of them forty days,**

40 day span from Resurrection to Ascension.

**and speaking of the things pertaining to the**

**kingdom of God:** (Upper Room Revealing)

(Luke 24:44-48) \*45 - Apostles Ah Ha Moment!

**4 And, being assembled together with them,**  
**commanded them that they should not depart**  
**from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the**  
**Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.**

*Jesus had told them, so did John the Baptist.*

**To Be Unstoppable, they had to trust God's timing:**

**6 When they therefore were come together, they**  
**asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time**  
**restore again the kingdom to Israel?**

They still were thinking in terms of Jesus establishing  
His earthly kingdom at that time.

Their thoughts were more nationalistic than spiritual.

They longed to see Israel restored to former glory.

They of course knew that Jesus would be the King.

They had been raised to rely on these prophecies for  
Hope!

**7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know**  
**the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put**  
**in his own power.** (God has a plan, & a Timing)

(Matt 24:36) *But of that day and hour knoweth no*  
*man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.*

**To Be Unstoppable, they had to be Fueled by the**  
**Power of there Holy Ghost:**

**8 But "ye shall receive power after that the Holy**  
**Ghost is come upon you:"** He's not empowering the  
nation of Israel, He's going to empower You!

**5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.**

*(Luke 24:49) And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*

***“endued with power from on high”***

We are never commanded to be Baptized with the Holy Ghost.

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is the Instantaneous Indwelling of the Holy Spirit at Salvation!

We are Commanded to be ***Filled*** with the Holy Spirit  
*(Eph 5:18b) “but be filled with the Spirit;”*

The Filling of the Spirit is the Surrender of all areas of our lives to His control: (Rom 6:12-13)

If You will surrender to the Holy Spirit You CAN Expect to ***“Receive Power”*** (Gal 5:16-17)

Church was to be empowered, not born.

The Church was Birthed by Jesus.

The Church was Bought by Jesus on Calvary.

The Church was Build by Jesus to be Unstoppable.

The Church was to be Fueled by the power of Holy Spirit.

***If FBCK is going to be an Unstoppable Church it has to be Fueled by the Power of the Holy Ghost b/c we are each Filled with the Holy Ghost!***

**Because WE are surrendered in every area of our lives.**

**Because we are Walking in the Spirit, and thus Not fulfilling the lusts of our Flesh.**

**The Church of Jesus Was Unstoppable because it Was Birthed By Jesus Christ.**

**Was Build By Jesus Christ.**

**Was Bought by Jesus Christ.**

**Was Empowered by the Holy Ghost.**

**The Church of Jesus Was Unstoppable because it had a clear vision of it’s Purpose!**

**(vs 8) and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

It knew what it was here.

It knew what it was supposed to be doing.

***“Witnesses”*** - Testify of what we experienced.

We are not called to Judges;

Determine what’s Right/Wrong: God does that.

We are not called to be legislators:

To argue the Intent of God's Word: Its Clear.

We are not called to be Lawyers.

To argue why degrees of responsibility.

We are called to be Witnesses.

***Not National/Social Salvation, but Individual.***

**The Church of Jesus Was Unstoppable because it Knew Their King was coming again!**

**9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.**

*(Luke 24:50-51) And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. 51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.*

**10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;**

*“two men stood by them in white apparel;”*  
Angels - No Names Given: Angel~Messenger

**11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.**

Why did God send the Angels to speak to them?

You better go tell them or those knuckleheads will stand there all day!

Remember: last time, @ the Mt of Transfiguration? They wanted to build a tabernacle & worship there!

***“this same Jesus”*** - Not an Avatar.

This was not a resurrection Jesus's Spirit alone.

It was his body! (Jn 2:19-23)

(Lk 24:39-43) Physical Body, He ate physical food.

***“shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”***

He will come back in His Resurrection Body!

(Matt 24:30) *And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.*

(Rev 1:7) *Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.*

Keep you eye on the Eastern Sky!

Jesus is Coming Back!

1st Time for His Own: (1 Thes 4:13-18)

2nd Time With His Own: (Jude 1:14-15)(Rev 19:14)

**12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.**

*(Luke 24:52) And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:*