

Acts 1:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: 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.

Analysis

Ye shall receive power (δύναμιν λήμψεσθε)—The promise of divine enablement through the Holy Spirit, not human ability. The Greek 'dunamis' (power) appears throughout Acts as the source of apostolic boldness and miraculous signs. **Witnesses unto me** defines Christian identity as testifiers to Christ's resurrection. The geographic progression—Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, uttermost earth—provides Acts' structural outline, showing God's redemptive plan expanding from Judaism to all nations. This commission replaced messianic kingdom expectations with Spirit-empowered global mission.

Historical Context

Spoken during Jesus' final pre-ascension appearance (40 days after resurrection), this redirected disciples' focus from political restoration of Israel to worldwide evangelistic mission. The 'uttermost part of the earth' would have seemed impossibly vast to this small band of Galilean followers.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does the Holy Spirit's power in your life manifest differently than human talent or charisma?
2. What 'uttermost parts' in your sphere of influence require bold witness to Christ?

Interlinear Text

ἀλλὰ	λήψεσθε	δύναμιν	ἐπελθόντος	τοῦ	ἁγίου		
But	ye shall receive	power	is come	G3588	after that the Holy		
G235	G2983	G1411	G1904		G40		
πνεύματος	ἐφ'	ὑμᾶς	καὶ	ἔσεσθέ	μοι	μάρτυρες	ἐν
Ghost	upon	you	and	ye shall be	unto me	witnesses	in
G4151	G1909	G5209	G2532	G2071	G3427	G3144	G1722
τε	Ἱερουσαλήμ	καὶ	ἐν	πάσῃ	τῇ	Ἰουδαία	καὶ
both	Jerusalem	and	in	all	G3588	Judaea	and
G5037	G2419	G2532	G1722	G3956		G2449	G2532
Σαμαρεία	καὶ	ἕως	ἐσχάτου	τῆς	γῆς		
in Samaria	and	unto	the uttermost part	G3588	of the earth		
G4540	G2532	G2193	G2078		G1093		

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 28:19 (Holy): Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mark 16:15 (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Romans 15:19 (Spirit): Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

Acts 5:32 (Holy): And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

Acts 4:33 (Witness): And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Acts 6:8 (Parallel theme): And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

Romans 10:18 (Parallel theme): But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.

John 15:27 (Witness): And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.

Luke 10:19 (Parallel theme): Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Matthew 24:14 (Witness): And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.