

Luke 24:49

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

Promise of the Spirit: '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.' Jesus promises: 'I send the promise of my Father' (ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν τοῦ Πατρός μου, egō apostellō tēn epangelian tou Patros mou)—the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-32, Acts 1:4-5, 2:16-21). The command: 'tarry ye in Jerusalem' (καθίσατε ἐν τῇ πόλει, kathisate en tē polei, remain in the city) 'until ye be endued with power from on high' (ἔως οὗ ἐνδύσησθε ἐξ ὑψους δύναμιν, heōs hou endysēsthe ex hypsous dynamin). Witness requires Spirit-empowerment. Human wisdom and courage won't suffice—only divine power enables effective testimony. This promise was fulfilled at Pentecost (Acts 2).

Historical Context

The 'promise of my Father' refers to Old Testament prophecies of Spirit outpouring in the last days (Joel 2:28-32, Ezekiel 36:26-27, Jeremiah 31:33). Jesus promised the Holy Spirit throughout His ministry (John 7:37-39, 14:16-17, 26, 15:26, 16:7-15). The Spirit's coming at Pentecost (Acts 2) empowered the church for mission—transforming fearful disciples into bold witnesses. The command to wait emphasizes God's timing—even with resurrection faith, they needed Spirit-empowerment before beginning mission. This establishes the pattern: Christian witness depends not on human ability but divine enablement. Every generation

needs Spirit-filling for effective gospel proclamation. The ascended Christ continues sending the Spirit to empower His witnesses (Acts 2:33).

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What is 'the promise of my Father,' and what Old Testament prophecies does it fulfill?
2. Why must the disciples wait for Spirit-empowerment before beginning their witness?
3. How does dependence on the Holy Spirit shape Christian mission and witness?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἰδού, ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν τοῦ πατρός

And **behold** **I** **send** **the promise** **Father**

G2532 G2400 G1473 G649 G1860 G3588 G3962

μου ἐφ' ὑμᾶς· ὑμεῖς δὲ καθίσατε ἐν τῇ πόλει

of my **upon** **you** **ye** **but** **tarry** **in** **the city**

G3450 G1909 G5209 G5210 G1161 G2523 G1722 G4172

Ἰερουσαλήμ, ἕως οὗ ἐνδύσησθε δύναμιν ἐξ ὕψους

of Jerusalem **until** **ye** **be endued** **with power** **from** **on high**

G2419 G2193 G3739 G1746 G1411 G1537 G5311

Additional Cross-References

Acts 1:8 (References Jerusalem): 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.

Acts 1:4 (Covenant): 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.

John 14:26 (Parallel theme): But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Isaiah 32:15 (Parallel theme): Until the spirit be poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness be a fruitful field, and the fruitful field be counted for a forest.

John 15:26 (Parallel theme): But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:
