

Now What? Acts 1:6-8

William Carey: The Father of Modern Missions (1761 – 1834)

- “Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God.”
- “I will go down into the mine, if you will hold the rope.”
- “There on the pier, William Carey took an oath from each of us that he was, as it were about to descend into the pit; he made us promise, that as long as we lived, we would never let go of the rope.” [Adapted from S. Pearce Carey, William Carey (The Wakeman Trust, 1923; reprint, 2008), p. 108]

I. The Disciple’s _____ (v. 6)

- a. Before His ascension Jesus gathered His disciples together for a meal, to open “***their minds to understand the Scriptures***” and for some final instructions (cf. Acts 10:41; Luke 24:42-45)
- b. His first instructions rightly reminded the disciples of God’s promises regarding “the last days,” “the end times” and “the day of the Lord” (Ezek. 36:24-28; cf. Isa. 32:12-20; 44:1-5; 59:20-21; Joel 2:28-32; Ezek. 11:18-21; 39:28-29)
- c. So, their question makes total sense: ***Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?***
 - i. They completely believed He was the Christ, and they were waiting for Him to set up His promised kingdom

II. The Lord’s _____ (vs. 7-8)

- a. Jesus does not correct their question; therefore it implies He is returning to setup His Millennial Kingdom.
 - i. He does tell them that ***“It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority***

- b. ***8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;***
 - i. ***Counselor, Comforter, and Helper***...who teaches us all things (cf. John 14:16, 26; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 6:19-20, 12:13)
 - ii. The ***Spirit of Truth*** who ***will guide you into all the truth*** (cf. John 16:13-14)
 - iii. He is the Giver of spiritual gifts and the Producer of spiritual fruit (cf. 1 Cor. 12; Gal. 5:15-13)
 - iv. ***5 He saved us...by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,***” (Titus 3:5)
 - v. ***13 In Him...you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise,***” (Eph. 1:13; 4:30)
- c. ***power = dynamis (δύναμις)*** = “ability, power, mighty deed, miracle”
- d. ***and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.***
 - i. Your ***Jerusalem*** = _____
 - ii. Your ***Judea*** = _____
 - iii. Your ***Samaria*** = _____
 - iv. Your ***remotest part of the earth*** = _____

“If Jesus is precious to you, you will not be able to keep your good news to yourself. You will be whispering it into your child’s ear. You will be telling it to your husband. You will be earnestly imparting it to your friend. Without the charms of eloquence you will be more than eloquent: your heart will speak, and your eyes will flash as you talk of His sweet love. Every Christian here is either a missionary or an impostor.” (Spurgeon)