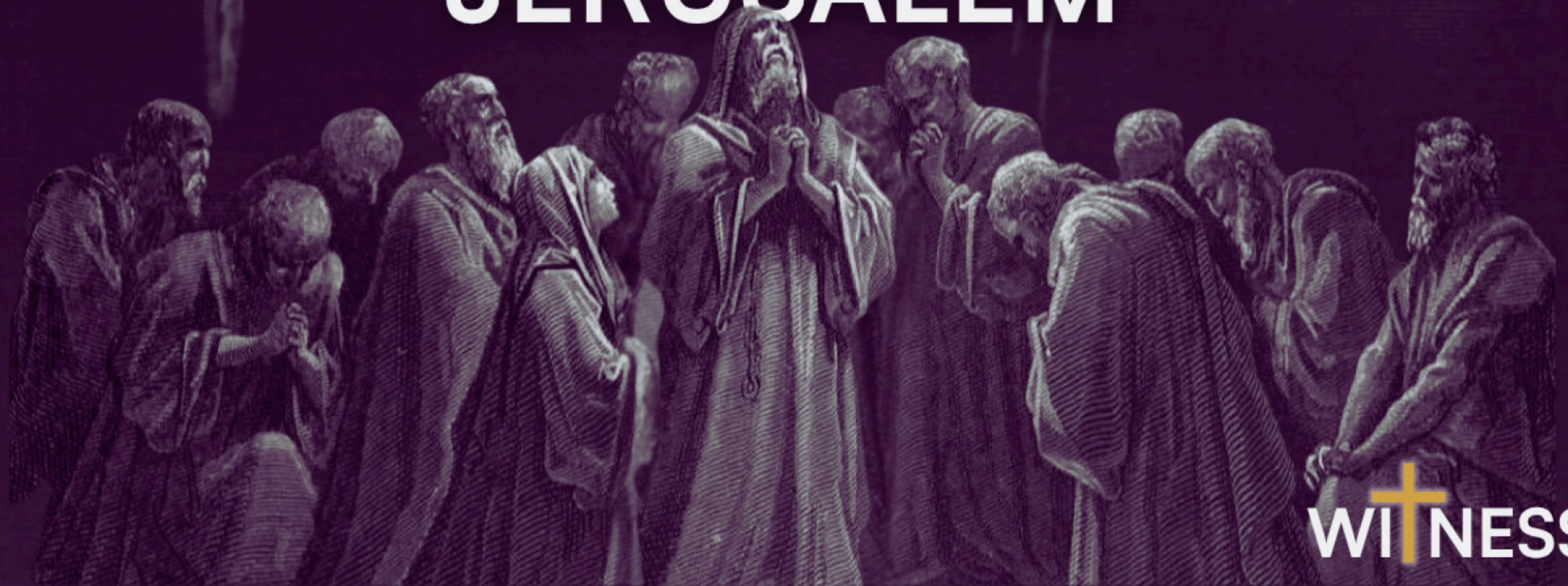


THE CROWDS / JERUSALEM



 WITNESS

In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach ² until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. ³ During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.

Acts 1:1–8 NLT

⁴ Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. ⁵ John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

⁶ So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?” ⁷ He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know.

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

²² “People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know. ²³ But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to a cross and killed him. ²⁴ But God released him from the horrors of death and raised him back to life, for death could not keep him in its grip.

²⁵ King David said this about him: ‘I see that the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me.’²⁶ No wonder my heart is glad, and my tongue shouts his praises! My body rests in hope.²⁷ For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your Holy One to rot in the grave.²⁸ You have shown me the way of life, and you will fill me with the joy of your presence.’

²⁹ “Dear brothers, think about this! You can be sure that the patriarch David wasn’t referring to himself, for he died and was buried, and his tomb is still here among us.
³⁰ But he was a prophet, and he knew God had promised with an oath that one of David’s own descendants would sit on his throne. ³¹ David was looking into the future and speaking of the Messiah’s resurrection. He was saying that God would not leave him among the dead or allow his body to rot in the grave.

³² “God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. ³³ Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God’s right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today.

³⁴ For David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said, ‘The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit in the place of honor at my right hand ³⁵ until I humble your enemies, making them a footstool under your feet.” ’

³⁶ “So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!”

³⁷ Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God.”

⁴⁰ Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation!”

⁴¹ Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.



**The power of the Holy Spirit
empowers us
to witness about Jesus**

Book of Acts – purpose

‘In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about everything Jesus began to do and teach...’ (Acts 1:1)

How the risen Jesus will Reach the World:

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8 - You will be my witnesses in...

Jerusalem (2-7)	Judea and Samaria (8-12)	Ends of the earth...	
		13-19:20 ...through Paul's missionary journeys	19:21-28 ...through Paul's imprisonment
3000 added (2:41) Rapid multiplication (6:1)	Samaria/Simon Damascus/Saul Caesarea/Cornelius	(Greece/Asia Minor) Philippi/Jailor Athens/Areopagus Ephesus/John's disciples	Jerusalem to Rome

Acts 1:8 - You will be my witnesses in...

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Jews only	Samaritans God fearers	Pagan Gentiles	
Organic growth - first Christians		Intentional growth - church planting	

How the Risen Jesus reaches the World

Precondition
Praying constantly together
Upper room - 15

How the Risen Jesus reaches the World

Precondition	Step 1
Praying constantly together	1:8a - You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you...
Upper room - 15	Upper room — 120

How the Risen Jesus reaches the World

Precondition	Step 1	Step 2
Praying constantly together	1:8a - You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you...	1:8b - You will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere...
Upper room - 15	Upper room — 120	Streets — 3000 added



**The power of the Holy Spirit
empowers us
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Peter's Gospel presentation to the Jerusalem crowd... (v22-40)



Peter's Gospel presentation to the Jerusalem crowd... (v22-40)

Who are the Unreached? Devout Jews from every nation



Peter's Gospel presentation to the Jerusalem crowd... (v22-40)

Who are the Unreached? **Devout Jews from every nation**
Who is the witness? **Peter**

Peter's Gospel presentation to the Jerusalem crowd... (v22-40)

Who are the Unreached? **Devout Jews from every nation**

Who is the witness? **Peter**

How is the Gospel presented? **Jesus' death & resurrection**

Peter's Gospel presentation to the Jerusalem crowd... (v22-40)

Who are the Unreached? **Devout Jews from every nation**

Who is the witness? **Peter**

How is the Gospel presented? **Jesus' death & resurrection**

How does the Holy Spirit move? **Pierced heart**

Responding to the Gospel:

- Repent - of your sins
- Water Baptised - forgiveness
- Receive the Holy Spirit



Church: gathered & scattered

Reach the Unreached



A crowd of people in prayer, with flames rising in the background, creating a dramatic and spiritual atmosphere.

THIS WEEK

Ripple
Effect

Session #1: Deeper Relationships

REACHING PRAYERS:

Pray for certain people & places



A monochromatic purple-toned illustration depicting a group of people in prayer. In the center, a man with a long beard and hair, wearing a robe, has his hands clasped and looks upward. To his left, a woman in a headscarf also looks up. Other figures around them are in various prayerful poses, some with hands clasped. Above the group, numerous vertical, flame-like tongues of fire descend from a dark, textured background. The overall mood is one of spiritual fervor and divine presence.

**The power of the Holy Spirit
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