

**'You, Lord, who know the hearts of all,  
show which one of these two you have chosen  
to take the place in this ministry and apostleship  
from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.'**

he turned aside from the place (*topos*) of this ministry to go...

### What was the result of their process?

"And they cast lots (*kleros*) for them, and the lot fell on Matthias..."

<sup>ESV</sup> **Proverbs 16:33** The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

"...and he was numbered with the eleven apostles."

### **apostles**

See Acts 12:1-3

This passage (Acts 1:15-26)...

...functions as a fitting bridge from Jesus's command to "wait" (1:4-5) until the day of Pentecost "arrived" (2:1);

...begins to establish some of the significant features that will form the foundation of what takes place in the book of Acts—the full number of the apostles (1:26) and the full unity of the believers with them (1:14);

...fittingly wraps up the loose end of Luke's account of Judas—what happened to him as a *false* witness (1:18-19) and who replaces him as a *true* witness (1:21-23);

...demonstrates, especially, the confidence Peter and the early, small group of believers had in the **command** of the risen Jesus and in the **word** of the sovereign Lord:

the witness of Jesus Christ

extends to the end of the earth

by those who are bold even in the face of opposition

and thus it cannot be ultimately thwarted by the wickedness of others

"The risen Lord is not frustrated by human rebellion and will not allow even apostasy to hinder the fulfillment of his saving purpose." (David G. Peterson, *Acts*, p. 121)

Sunday, June 14, 2026  
Danny Capon, *Pastor*

**ACTS—The Confident Witness of Jesus Christ**  
No. 4 | Waiting for the Spirit, pt. 3  
**Acts 1:15-26**

### Review

Acts depicts the *continuing* ministry of Jesus Christ. Though he has ascended, the witness of Jesus continues by the power of the Spirit through the spread of the gospel for the growth of the church. Those who hear and believe the witness of Jesus Christ can and should be confident following his way.

### Waiting for the Spirit, pt. 3

1:15-26

### Jesus commanded his apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit.

What did they do while they waited?

Jesus "was lifted up" and "taken up from (them) into heaven" (vv. 10-11).

- Initially, they (the apostles) stood "gazing into heaven as he went" (v. 10).
- But then, they "returned to Jerusalem" and went to "the upper room" (v. 13).

Where did they come from?

"from the mount called Olivet...a Sabbath day's journey away" (v. 12)

Where did they go?

"they went up to the upper room, where they were staying" (v. 13)

Who all was there?

"Peter and John and James..." with "the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers" (vv. 13-14)

What were they doing?

"All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer..." (v. 14)

What's going on here in the passage before us (1:15-26)? And, why does it matter?

### Remember

The book of Acts is narrative, and Luke is communicating his message by means of selected stories (with related speeches) in the early years following the ascension of Jesus.

His purpose is to show how the witness of Jesus expanded in and beyond Jerusalem, and he aims to encourage others to live confidently following him similarly.

### Summary

The eleven apostles waited in Jerusalem for about ten days with over one hundred others.

While they waited, they decided to replace Judas Iscariot with a new twelfth apostle.

<sup>ESV</sup> **Acts 1:15** In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said...

### What did Peter say?

“Peter stood up among the brothers...”

Why does *Peter* stand up?

<sup>ESV</sup> **Luke 22:31** "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, <sup>32</sup> but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

‘Brothers...’ (vv. 16-22)

**the Scripture had (*dei*) to be fulfilled**

**which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand**

**by the mouth of David**

**concerning Judas**

What did Judas do? (v. 16b)

he became a guide to those who arrested Jesus

Why did Judas need to be addressed? (v. 17)

he was numbered among us and was allotted his share (*kleros*) in this ministry

What happened to Judas? (vv. 18-19)

(Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out.

And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)

See Matthew 27:3-10

Why does Luke tell us what happened to Judas?

<sup>ESV</sup> **Acts 12:21** On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. <sup>22</sup> And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" <sup>23</sup> Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last. <sup>24</sup> But the word of God increased and multiplied.

What Scripture had to be fulfilled?

‘**For it is written in the Book of Psalms...**’

“**May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it**” (Psalm 69:25)

“**Let another take his office.**” (Psalm 109:8)

**Why did he insist on replacing Judas?**

‘So (it is necessary [*dei*] therefore)...’

one of the men

who have accompanied us during the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us

beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us

one of these men

must become with us a witness to his resurrection (1:8)

**witness**

**How did they proceed with Peter’s words?**

“And they put forward two...”

Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and

Matthias

“And they prayed and said...”