

“Beginning From Jerusalem”

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*“And that repentance for forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, **beginning from Jerusalem.**” (Luke 24:47)*

Read Luke 24:44-49

No one familiar with the Scripture can miss the necessary connection between Acts 1:8 and what is found in Luke 24. It is not merely coincidental. Luke is the author of this two volume work. The first volume is called The Gospel of Luke and the second is entitled, The Acts of the Apostles. Acts begins where Luke ends, thus the necessary connection between Luke 24:47 and Acts 1:8.

Missions begins at home. God has entrusted to His people the message of hope. It is a message that runs through the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms (v. 44). It is a message that can only be understood as God opens our minds (v. 45). The message is embraced as we repent of our sins and turn to the Savior (v. 47). It is this message that must **be proclaimed in His name to all the nations** (v. 47). And His people are to begin this proclamation ministry in their “Jerusalem.”

We have not, however, been left to "fend for ourselves." We have been “Clothed with power from on high (v. 49).” His authority, His power, His enablement (Matt. 28:18) is sufficient for the task laid before His Church.

But what has happened? Are we "doing" enough? Have we carried out the command of the Lord to make disciples of all the nations? Do we know what He would have us do? Do we know “The Mission of WBC?” God has entrusted to His people the ministry of disciple making. Such a ministry is to be in and through local churches for the purpose of

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establishing local churches. This is not a ministry we can delegate to other ministries. It is ours to carry out as a fellowship of believers identified by the name Waukesha Bible Church.

Everything we do and every dollar we give is to be focused on this divine mission of making disciples for the purpose of strengthening and establishing local churches. Every ministry we are engaged in as a local church fellowship (i.e. Children’s Ministry, Vacation Bible School, Youth Ministry, Pre-school Moms Fellowship, Men’s Ministry, GLORIA, Adult Bible Fellowships, driven to One, etc.) has as its goal the strengthening and establishing of this local church and the multiplication of this church both locally,

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nationally, and globally. It is only as we rally behind this divinely given mandate that we can hope to see the expansion of His work in us and through us to those around us.

If we fail to strengthen and establish our "Home base," then we are in danger of failing to strengthen and establish other churches both here and abroad. We must strengthen the ministry of our Lord in and through WBC.

This is my passion . . . *that God would give us a place that pulsates with life that becomes for generations to come a beacon of light that pierces the darkness that radiates hope here and abroad.*

The strength of our outreach is based in and built on the strength of our home base. May God give us people whose hearts are knit with ours in this desire to move in and through the WBC family to reach deeply into our local community and continues to splash across the nation and into the world.

Friend, we must not rest "Until every Remotest Part Becomes a Jerusalem."