



Jan. 29 - Feb. 4, 2017

Text: Acts 1:1-6

**Theme: ACTS-ION:
The Dynamic Life of Christ's Church –
Then and Now**

SUMMARY OF "SERMON": These opening verses in the book of Acts set the tone for the whole book. We see that Christian faith and Christian living are historically anchored in God's Truth; are Holy Spirit activated; and are contemporarily alive. Then and now, Christ's followers serve Him and know His presence by the leading of the Holy Spirit.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK [The Bible readings this week help illuminate the key themes presented in the opening verses of Acts.]

Monday, Jan. 30 – **I Corinthians 15:1-11** [The reality of Jesus' bodily resurrection with an immortal body after His atoning sacrifice for our sins is a cornerstone to the Christian faith. As Paul emphasizes that here he also points out that hundreds of people witnessed the resurrection.]

Tuesday, Jan. 31 – **Psalms 130** [This psalm, which speaks of the need for forgiveness of sins before God finds fulfillment in Jesus' suffering on the cross.]

Wednesday, Feb. 1 – **Luke 24:36-53** [The end of the gospel of Luke fits hand in glove with the opening of the book of Acts. Jesus makes it clear here that His crucifixion and resurrection are not only fulfillment of the OT but also are what His followers are to proclaim as the good news.]

Thursday, Feb. 2 – **Zechariah 9:9-13** [The reign of Israel's Messiah is in view here but the disciples in Acts 1:6 misunderstood God's kingdom in Christ. V.9 is fulfilled on Palm Sunday. Jesus came to Jerusalem on a donkey, a servant animal, not a war horse. And the peace He brings is for all the nations, not just Israel (v.10).]

Friday, Feb. 3 – **I Corinthians 1:18-31** [No one questioned Jesus' death. What was questioned was its significance. Paul makes clear that the cross of Jesus is absolutely necessary for God's plan of salvation. Those who put faith in Christ know this.]

Saturday, Feb. 4 – **Hebrews 11:8-19** [The author of Hebrews saw Abraham as an example of faith in God and His promises. Vv. 17-19 are seen as symbolically foreshadowing the crucifixion and resurrection of God's Son.]



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