

# HOW REVIVAL ACTS

Acts 1:16-26

*“In the Beginning, the Church Acts”*



**FIRED UP**

Acts 1:16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

17 For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.

18 Now this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

19 And it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood.

20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.

21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, 22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

24 And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,

25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

## I. THE ORGANIZATION

- A. The Pastor, 1:4a
- B. The Preparation, 1:4b
- C. The Power, 1:5
- D. The Predicament, 1:6-7
- E. The Performance, 1:8
- F. The Predicament, 1:6-7
- G. The Performance, 1:8

## II. THE OPERATION

- A. Watching the Ascension of the Savior, 1:9-11
  - 1. The Parting, 1:9
  - 2. The Prospect, 1:10-11
- B. Waiting for Empowering of the Spirit, 1:12-26
  - 1. The faithful exercise of the Apostles, 1:12-15
    - a. Their assembly, 1:12-13
    - b. Their assurance, 1:14-15

## 2. The formal expulsion of the apostate, 1:16-26

According to 1:15, Peter is leading a church meeting with 120 present (24% of the 500 that had seen the Resurrected Savior.)

1 Cor. 15:6 After that, **he was seen of above five hundred brethren** at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

a. The Sin of Judas Reviewed, 1:16-20

(1) The Prophecy of His Sin, 1:16-18

## (a) The Serious Treachery That Marred His Life, 1:16-17

Acts 1:16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

17 For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry.

- Peter confronted a challenge that needed addressing by the first church.
- Peter had access to the Scripture and referred to David as having been inspired, by the Holy Spirit, to have written about Judas.

Psa. 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.

- Peter emphasized the treachery of Judas as not only being a phony, but being numbered with them.
- Judas, the traitor, had been witness to so much good, but greedily gave it all up for 30 pieces of silver.

(b) The Sordid Tragedy That  
Marked His Death, 1:18

Acts 1:18 Now **this man purchased a field with the reward of iniquity**; and falling headlong, he burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out.

- Matthew's Gospel says that Judas hanged himself. Evidently, his corpse fell, and his body suffered more trauma. The tragedy is his betrayal of the Lord Jesus, not his ghastly death.

Mt. 27:5 And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.

6 And the chief priests took the silver pieces, and said, It is not lawful for to put them into the treasury, because it is the price of blood.

7 And they took counsel, and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in.



- Though the chief priests bought the potter's field, credit goes to Judas (1:18.)

## (2) The Publicity of His Sin, 1:19

Acts 1:19 And **it was known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem**; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aceldama, that is to say, The field of blood.

Mt. 27:8 Wherefore that field was called, The field of blood, unto this day.

- A “public sin” is much more damaging to the testimony of a church than private sins.

## (3) The Punishment of His Sin, 1:20

Acts 1:20 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take.

Psa. 69:25 Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents.

Psa. 109:8 Let his days be few; and **let another take his office.**

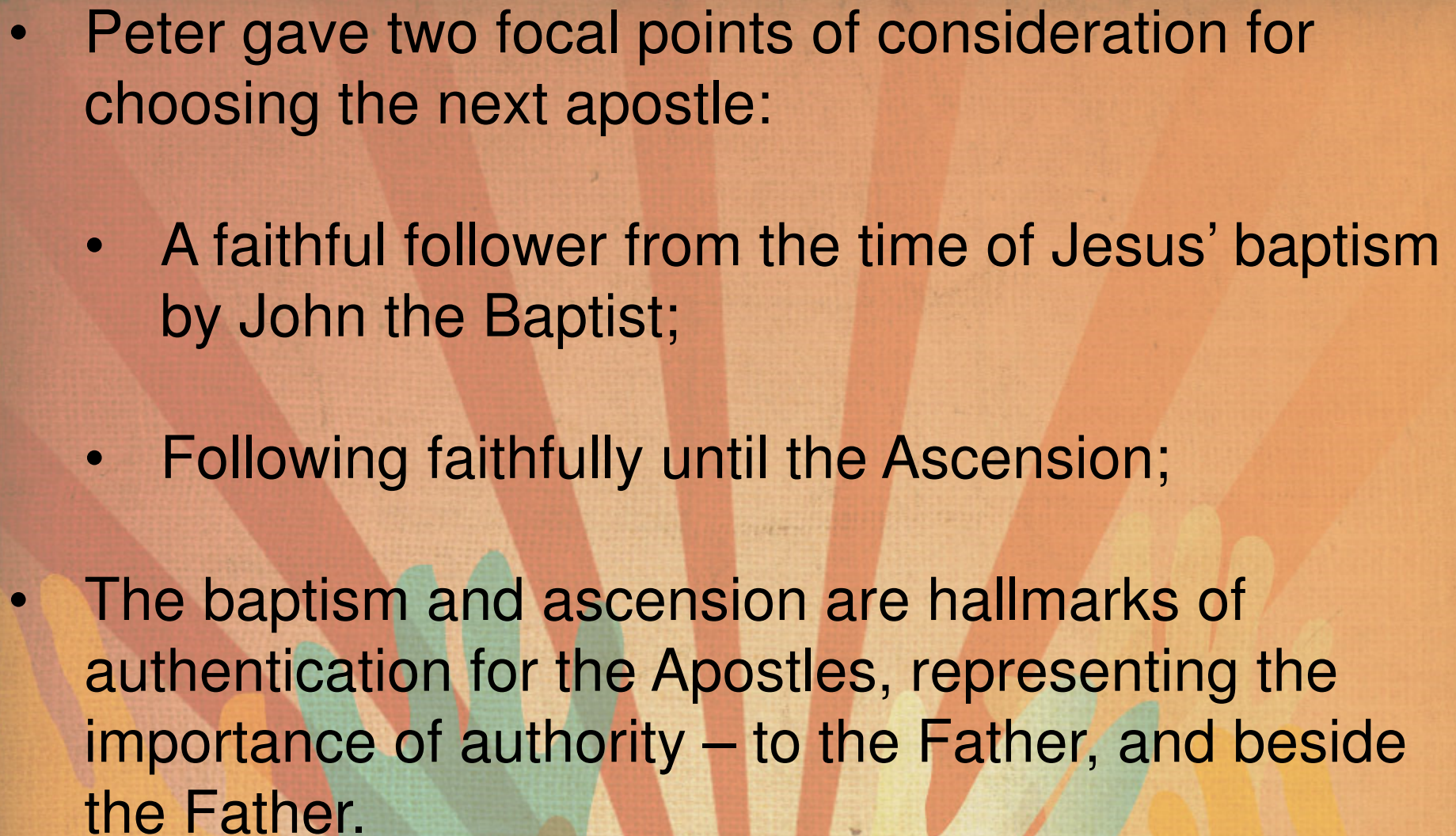
b. The Substitute for Judas Revealed, 1:21-26

(1) Their Quest, 1:21-23

(a) A Sifting Process, 1:21-22

Acts 1:21 Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us,

22 Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.

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- The background of the slide features a warm, orange-toned gradient. Overlaid on this are several stylized, overlapping hands in various colors including yellow, light green, and brown. From the center of the hands, several bright, radiating lines or rays extend upwards and outwards, creating a sunburst effect. The overall aesthetic is bright and hopeful.
- Peter gave two focal points of consideration for choosing the next apostle:
    - A faithful follower from the time of Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist;
    - Following faithfully until the Ascension;
  - The baptism and ascension are hallmarks of authentication for the Apostles, representing the importance of authority – to the Father, and beside the Father.

Mt. 21:23 And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, **By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?**

24 And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you **by what authority I do these things.**

25 **The baptism of John, whence was it?** from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?

Rom. 8:34 Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, **who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

Col. 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, **seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.** (Heb. 10:12)

Heb. 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is **set down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

1 Pet. 3:22 Who is gone into heaven, and is **on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.**

## (b) A Serious Problem, 1:23

Acts 1:23 And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias.

- There are two men, equally qualified to replace Judas.

Joseph = “Let Him add” is a Hebrew name.

Barsabbas = “son of Sabbas” is Aramaic.

Justin = “just” is Roman.

Matthias = “Gift of God” < “Gift of Jehovah” is a Hebrew name.

## (2) Their Quandary, 1:24-26

### (a) They Voiced Their Perplexity, 1:24-25

Acts 1:24 And **they prayed**, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen,  
25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.

- They practiced congregational polity.
- They prayed for God's leadership and direction.
- They exhibited submission to the Lordship of Christ –  
“...Thou, Lord...”
- They sought the Lord's will for those chosen to take care of His business.
- They acknowledged the wickedness of Judas.

Jn. 6:70 answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and **one of you is a devil?**



Jn. 17:12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but **the son of perdition**; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

2 Thess. 2:3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, **the son of perdition**;

(b) They Voted Their Preference,  
1:26

Acts 1:26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

- The votes were cast, and Matthias was chosen to replace Judas.
- Was the first church too hasty to choose Matthias? What about Paul being an Apostle?
- What about Barnabas being an Apostle?

Acts 14:14 Which when **the apostles, Barnabas and Paul**, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

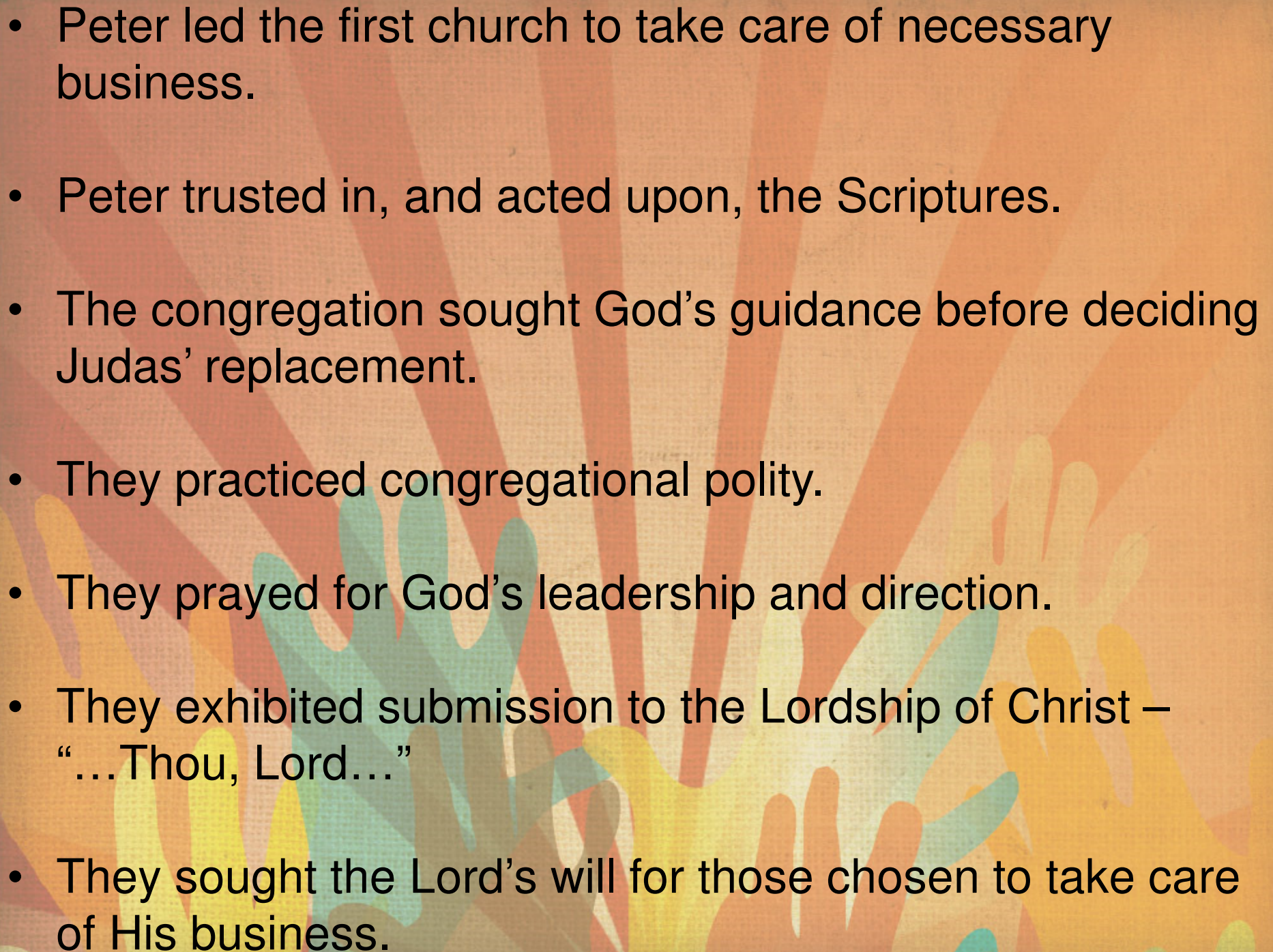
### Summary

"Matthew concludes with the Resurrection, Mark with the Ascension, Luke with the promise of the Holy Spirit, and John with the promise of the Second Coming. Acts 1 brings all four records together and mentions each of them. The four Gospels funnel into Acts, and Acts is the bridge between the Gospels and the Epistles."

J. Vernon McGee, *Thru the Bible with J. Vernon McGee*, 4:515

The very first church had several principles that we must have in order to experience “HOW REVIVAL ACTS.”

- The first church knew that Jesus was the Head of the church.
- The first church obeyed the Lord Jesus Christ’s command.
- The first church was empowered by the Holy Ghost.
- The unity of the first church is depicted via prayer and supplication.
- The peace of such unity is given as assurance to the first church.
- The Apostles and disciples practiced faithful church attendance.

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- Peter led the first church to take care of necessary business.
  - Peter trusted in, and acted upon, the Scriptures.
  - The congregation sought God's guidance before deciding Judas' replacement.
  - They practiced congregational polity.
  - They prayed for God's leadership and direction.
  - They exhibited submission to the Lordship of Christ –  
“...Thou, Lord...”
  - They sought the Lord's will for those chosen to take care of His business.

## Conclusion

1 Cor. 14:40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

Rom. 12:11 Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;