

ACTS 1:3-4

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# 40 DAY AGENDA

*In the Church Year calendar, today is the—*  
**Fifth Sunday of Resurrection**

*A Season of Grace*

*Fifty days extending from Resurrection  
through Ascension Day to Pentecost*

# 40 DAYS FROM RESURRECTION UNTIL ASCENSION

- ▶ The mission of Jesus had been over 4,000 years in development
- ▶ When he came, it was as the final hope of humanity to avoid total and eternal destruction
- ▶ For 3 years he had mentored 12 disciples to continue his mission
- ▶ In their most crucial moment, 1 betrayed him to death, 1 renounced to the enemies of Jesus any association with him, and the remainder deserted him
- ▶ In 40 days, he will leave the earth, never to see them again, and His mission will be in their hands

# 40 DAYS FROM RESURRECTION UNTIL ASCENSION

- ▶ In 40 days, the disciples will have sole responsibility for the mission and legacy of Jesus – just 6 weeks since their total failure
- ▶ They have only 3 years of informal training – much of which was marred by quarreling, inconsistency, and lack of comprehension
- ▶ They have no record of what Jesus taught
- ▶ They do not own any copies of their own Scriptures – the last of which was written over 400 years earlier
- ▶ The most important aspects of their religious practice is now obsolete

# JESUS' POST-RESURRECTION AGENDA

## (1) Present convincing proof of his resurrection from the dead

*After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive.*

*Acts 1.3*

*“Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”*

*John 20.27*

*After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James . . .*

*1 Corinthians 15.6-7*

# WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT—

*And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.*

*1 Corinthians 15.17*

*He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.*

*Romans 4.25*

*We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. . . . For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

*Romans 6.4, 9-11*





*If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.*

*—Romans 10.9-10*

## JESUS' POST-RESURRECTION AGENDA

(2) Commission his disciples to continue God's mission to save the world from judgment and death

*Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."*

*John 20.21*

*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.*

*John 3.16-18*

*He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.*

*Mark 16.15-16*



# WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT—

*Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. . . .*

*Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.*

*John 3.16-18, 36*

*For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Romans 6.23*

*We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.*

*1 Corinthians 5.20*

# JESUS' POST-RESURRECTION AGENDA

## (3) Teach them that he is the fulfillment of all Scripture

*He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.*

*Luke 24.25-27*

*He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.*

*Luke 24.44-46*

# WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT—

*[This is not] as you suppose . . . No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: “ ‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. . . . I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’*

*Acts 2.15-16, 19-21*

*. . . I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures . . .*

*1 Corinthians 15.1-4*





*But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. . . . Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. . . . Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position.*

*—2 Peter 3.5-7, 11-13, 17*

## JESUS' POST-RESURRECTION AGENDA

(4) Educate (and convince them) about the reality and priority of the kingdom of God

*He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.*

*Acts 1.3*

*Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses . . .”*

*Acts 1.6-8*

# WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT—

*“But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. . . . “Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, ‘Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons.’”*

*Matthew 25.31-33, 41*

*So, dear brothers and sisters, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things, and you will never fall away. Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore, I will always remind you about these things—even though you already know them . . .*

*2 Peter 1.10-12*





*I can't impress this on you too strongly. God is looking over your shoulder. Christ himself is the Judge, with the final say on everyone, living and dead. He is about to break into the open with his rule, so proclaim the Message with intensity; keep on your watch. Challenge, warn, and urge your people. Don't ever quit. Just keep it simple. You're going to find that there will be times when people will have no stomach for solid teaching, but will fill up on spiritual junk food—catchy opinions that tickle their fancy. They'll turn their backs on truth and chase mirages. But you—keep your eye on what you're doing; accept the hard times along with the good; keep the Message alive; do a thorough job as God's servant.*

*—2 Timothy 4.1-5 THE MESSAGE BIBLE*

## JESUS' POST-RESURRECTION AGENDA

(5) Give them next-step instructions when they are soon on their own

*“I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”*

*Luke 24.49*

*On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. . . . But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

*Acts 1.4, 8*

# WHY THIS IS SO IMPORTANT—

*“But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because people do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.”*

*John 16.7-13*

*“Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”*

*Revelation 3.22*

FIFTH SUNDAY OF RESURRECTION

*Risen!*