

19. Acts

*Acts 1; The ascension of Jesus (1:6-12)

- "And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. They also said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away" (1:9-12). Jesus ascended from the Mount of Olives and disappeared into the clouds. At the end of the Great Tribulation, Jesus will return in the same way. He will descend from the sky and His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives (Zechariah 14:4).

*Acts 2; Pentecost, beginning of the church (2:1-47)

- "'And it shall be in the last days,' God says, 'that I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind'" (2:17; see Joel 2:28-29). Shortly after the ascension of Christ, believers were filled with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, which marked the beginning of the church. Pentecost was the Greek name for the Jewish Feast of Weeks (Leviticus 23:15-22), which occurs fifty days after the Feast of First fruits (Leviticus 23:16). "The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the great and glorious day of the LORD shall come" (2:20). This is probably describing the sixth seal judgment during the Great Tribulation (Revelation 6:12). The "great and glorious day of the LORD" is probably a reference to the second coming of Christ.