

“DEPARTURES AND ARRIVALS”

TEXT: John 16:7

“...for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you, but I go, I will send Him to you”

INTRODUCTION:

The authorship of the book of Acts is almost universally attributed to Luke. Herewith a link to enable an intensive examination of the details of the book of Acts (written by Mark Copeland www.executiveoutlines.com) Attached hereto, is a diagrammatic outline which summarises the main points of the first chapter. The chapters which follow, are done according to the same pattern by giving a diagrammatic depiction of the main points of the various chapters.

DISCUSSION:

There are three very distinctive points the author uses to highlight the contrasts which demonstrate the message, of which we need to be aware:

1. In verse 4 - By employing the little word “but” Jesus gives the apostles a definite place to wait for the promise of the Father, Jerusalem, and none other would do.
2. In verse 5 - This “promise” was identified as a “coming upon” (baptism) by the Holy Spirit (in contrast to a “baptism with water” performed by John) Again the little word “but” clearly identifies what would “no longer be applicable” versus what they could expect.
3. In verse 8 - This promise was identified as a baptism (overwhelming effect) of the Holy Spirit, who would enable them to be witnesses of Jesus’ resurrection (the good news)

Other “departures and arrivals” are:

- a) The departure of Judas Iscariot and the arrival of Matthias
- b) The departure of the Old Covenant and the arrival of the New Covenant
- c) The departure of Judaism and the arrival of Christianity

CONCLUSION:

The Old Covenant symbolised the presence of God by means of a physical temple and a tribalistic priesthood, this would depart and a spiritual temple and priesthood (1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 Peter 1:9) arrived on the preaching of the first gospel message (on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Jesus Christ)