

# THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## CHAPTER 11:27-30

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### TITLE:

**“TRUE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY”**

### THEME:

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and “**you shall be witnesses to Me**” in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**, and to the **end of the earth.**“

## ACTS CHAPTER 11

*IS A RADICAL CHAPTER IN THE TRUEST SENSE OF THE WORD,  
BECAUSE IT INTRODUCES US TO THE GENTILE CHURCH.*

- |     |           |                              |
|-----|-----------|------------------------------|
| A.) | vv. 1-18  | The Gentiles are Accepted    |
| B.) | vv. 19-26 | The Gentiles are Encouraged  |
| C.) | vv. 27-30 | The Gentiles are Ministering |

### *THE GENTILE & JEWISH MIND*

*God was going to use the most unlikely group of People*

#### ***Romans 10:19-21***

"I will provoke you to **jealousy** by those who are not a nation, I will move you to anger by a foolish nation. :20..... "I was found by those who did not seek Me; I was made manifest to those who did not ask for Me." :21 But to Israel he says: "All day long I have stretched out My hands to a disobedient and contrary people."

Romans 11:11

to provoke Israel to **jealousy**, salvation has come to the Gentiles.

\* **Jealousy** **GRK 2205** *zelos (dzay'-los)*

*to heat up, to become "zealous". or to be fervent (hot) in mind & heart. The root is (dzeh'-o); to boil, to glow.*

2 Corinthians 11:2

For I am *jealous* over you with godly *jealousy*: for I have espoused you to one husband, (Jesus) that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

## *Godly Jealousy is Produced Only One Way*

### “TRUE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY”

Let's Just Level Our Sights Here and Now,  
We're talking about Christian “Works”

(There's a ‘**Grand Canyon**’ That Exists Between Faith & Works)

Q:

IS IT WORKS THAT SAVES YOU OR IS IT FAITH ALONE THAT SAVES YOU?  
WHICH IS IT ?

*Ezekiel 44:17-18*

"And it shall be, whenever the priests enter the gates of the inner court, that they shall put on linen garments; no wool shall come upon them while they minister within the gates of the inner court or within the house of the Lord. :18 "They shall have linen turbans on their heads and linen underwear on their bodies;  
**they shall not clothe themselves with anything that will cause them to sweat.**

## We're talking “No Sweat” here

Sweat Causes You to Stink. It stains Your Clothes and Rots Your Service unto the Lord

### 1.) True Christian Ministry is ‘*Spiritual*’ *vs.* 27-28

#### Verse 27

#### ‘In these Days’

*while they were being ‘encouraged’ and ‘taught’*

\* *Prophets*      *GRK 4396 prophetes (prof-ay'-tace)*  
*‘to fore-tell’ and or ‘forth-tell’ one who reveals*

## According to the Biblical Definition,

- Billy Graham is a Prophet who (*forth-tells - proclaims*)
- Dave Hunt as a Prophet who (*fore-tells - reveals*)

Last Week We Saw the **Gift of Exhortation** at Work,  
This Week the **Gift of Prophecy, The Gift of Helps & The Gift of Giving** (the gifts of  
the Holy Spirit at Work)

### PAUL'S WARNING

1 Corinthians 12:1

Now concerning (spirituals) gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant  
(or uninformed or out of touch):

Romans 12:6-8

Having then gifts **differing** according to the grace that is given to us,  
**let us use them:** if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; :7 or ministry, let us use it in  
our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; :8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with  
liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness

### THE CHURCH BODY IS A SPIRITUAL BEING, MINISTERED TO BY SPIRITUAL MEANS

*1 Peter 4:10*

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold  
grace of God.

\* *By the Spirit*      *GRK possessed or inspired "to inhale & exhale"*

### **"By The Spirit..."**

THE HOLY SPIRIT DISTRIBUTES THE GIFTS AS HE DESIRES

1 Corinthians 12:11

**Ephesians 4:11-13**

And He Himself gave *some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some  
pastors/teachers, :12 for the 'equipping' of the saints for the 'work' of ministry, for the  
'edifying' of the body of Christ, :13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the  
knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of  
Christ;*

*edifying*    **GRK 3619 oikodome** (oy-kod-om-ay')  
to build, to erect and to establish. **to edifices (edify)**  
to change the face of.

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We Have the Make-Up, The Tools,  
**The “Home-Depot”**  
to make the difference

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Q;

**Those of you who are born-again Christians  
this morning, raise your hand.**

Every one of you have been allocated at least one gift from the Holy Spirit..... to some,  
to some, to some, to some... the body is to run the race together

***Zechariah 4:6-7***

...`Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts. :7 `Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"

Sin, Pain & Human Suffering are constant reminders of the Obstacles that arise before us all. (no one's exempt)

□

But Ministry changes the tone and atmosphere of suffering.

( THIS WEEK IN REVIEW HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL WEEK OF MINISTRY )

Salvation, Re-commitment, healing, Miracle,...and a Death

**HOME**

**SCORE BOARD**

**VISITORS**

Heaven 99

Hell 0

2.) True Christian Ministry is 'Meaningful'    *vv. 28-29*

*The Announcement was not only Prophetic,  
but Meaningful.*

≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈ **BECAUSE IT CAME TO PASS** ≈≈≈≈≈≈≈≈

*To God's Glory*

Historical Note;

*Luke is careful to add,*

***'which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar'***

*according to Roman history we know that four famines hit the empire beginning in 41 A.D. thru 54 A.D. 2 in Rome, 1 in Greece, & 1 here, in Judea, which was the most severe of the 4*

## **Claudius Caesar**

*reigned from 41 to 54 A.D. (13 yrs.)*

*during which time (4) four famines ravaged the Roman Empire*

□ □ □

**Famine or dearth** (GRK limos (lee-mos))

*the most severe of the four which took place in 46 A.D.*

Now, keep in mind, the book *of acts* was completed in 61 A.D. It was nearly thirty years in the making as the eyewitness accounts were put into one volume.

### **Verse 29**

'Then' (*ver. 28 showed*) note that the natural and an immediate response of the disciples was to minister. "It's the 'Fruity' Thing to Do" No Grunt, No Groan, But Naturally Grown

**"Then the Disciples, each according to his ability,"**

\* **Ability**

**GRK 2141 euporeo** (yoo-por-eh'-o)

*to pass through. To have what is needed. to have means:*

*Turn to Matthew 25:22-29  
The Talents (gifts)*

**THE DISCIPLES WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THIS WORD 'ABILITY'**

## THE LAST SUPPER GATHERING

*Jesus has just told them that He was about to be Killed*

*That the Betrayer, one of their very own, was in the very midst of them.... How do they react ?*

### Luke 22:22-27

"And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!" :23 Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing. :24 **Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest.....**:27 "For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves.

### Luke 6:38

"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

### 2 Corinthians 9:6

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

This is a spiritual law presented here.

### Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, (Why Not) because the love of God has been *poured out* in our hearts *by the Holy Spirit....*

## 3.) True Christian Ministry is 'Practical' vv. 29-30

### Verse 29

\* *Determined* GRK 3724 *horizo* (hor-id'-zo)  
*to mark out or to strike a ("horizon")*

*God ministers to His people, thru His people*

### THE THOUGHT IS THIS;

If the Jerusalem church has been a blessing to us spiritually,  
then by all means, let us be a blessing to them physically.

Galatians 6:6

Let him who is taught the word  
share in all good things with him who teaches *the word*.

Romans 15:27

....For if the Gentiles have been partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister to them in material things.

## Practical Christian Ministry

James 2:15

If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, :16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

Jesus said, "you would be able to tell a pretender from the Real Thing by what type of fruit was hanging on their tree"

Matthew 7:15

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. :16 "You will know them (discover) by their fruits. (just squeeze their fruit, pick their fruit. bite their fruit....

### **Have You Ever Toured a Model Home?**

*The plastic Fruit Display*

## Practical Christian Ministry

1 Timothy 5:8

But if anyone does not provide for his own family, and especially for those of his own house, he has **denied** the faith and is **worse** than an unbeliever.

But Jack - I've Never Provided for the Less Fortunate

~~~~~ That May or May Not Be True ~~~~~

(If you are a giving and tithing attendee of this church, you have repeatedly fed, clothed, and housed your brothers & sisters here at Calvary Chapel)

-- **That's to your account in Heaven!**

Galatians 6:10

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**But Jack, I can't afford to give...**

**All I can say is, *I can't afford not to give***

**It's not the amount that you give...  
it's how much it costs is what counts.**

Malachi 3:8

"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.....:10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.

Winston Churchill said;

*"We a make a living, by what we get,  
but we make a life, by what we give."*

2 Corinthians 9:7

So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a *cheerful* giver.

*cheerful* GRK 2431 *hilaros (hil-ar-os')*  
*to be merry, or joyous, to be prompt and willing to give out.*

## ~~No Depressed or Grumpy Givers~~

### Verse 30

This gives me the Hebe-Gebees (*Greek; for goose-bumps*)  
*What's implied here is that before the famine had hit, relief was coming to town.*

Q;

Isn't that how God is  
The moment you get an hour of Over-Time Pay... what happens?  
The Garbage Disposal Throws-up

Titus 3:8



This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain *good works*.

(you discover your gifts and your calling by being available)

So much is their ministry from the heart, that they send their most loved teachers, Barnabas & Saul. A token of their unselfish love.

**Crises will come  
and we have no power to prevent them.**  

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**But how we handle the crises  
is more important than the crises itself**

**THINK ON THIS;**

*Stephen's persecution and death, led to the spread of the gospel to Antioch. Saul's encounter with Jesus on the Damascus road changed history. Peter's Vision became New Eyes for the church. The Antioch believers became Jerusalem's deliverance. - God's Economy*

**AND THE SAME IS TRUE FOR US TODAY**

**THE WORLD HAS BEEN AWARE OF THE SPIRIT OF GIVING**

**ARISE O' SLEEPER**