

A Comparison of the Conclusion of Luke with the Introduction of Acts¹

The Conclusion of Luke (24:36-53 NASB)

36 While they were telling these things, HE HIMSELF STOOD IN THEIR MIDST. 37 But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a spirit.

38 And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 "SEE MY HANDS AND MY FEET, that it is I Myself; TOUCH ME and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." 40 And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. 41 While they still could not believe *it* because of their joy and amazement, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" 42 They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish; 43 and He took it and ATE *IT* before them.

44 Now He said to them, "THESE ARE MY WORDS which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then HE OPENED THEIR MINDS TO UNDERSTAND THE SCRIPTURES, 46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 "You are witnesses of these things.

49 "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to STAY IN THE CITY until you are CLOTHED WITH POWER from on high."

50 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. 51 While He was blessing them, HE PARTED FROM THEM AND WAS CARRIED UP into heaven.

52 And they, after worshiping Him, RETURNED TO JERUSALEM with great joy, 53 and were continually in the temple praising God.

The Introduction to Acts (1:1-12 NASB)

1 The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2 until the day when He was taken up *to heaven*, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.

3 To these He also PRESENTED HIMSELF ALIVE after His suffering,

by many CONVINCING PROOFS, appearing to them over *a period of forty days*

and speaking of the things concerning the KINGDOM OF GOD.

4 Gathering them together, He commanded them NOT TO LEAVE JERUSALEM, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," *He said*, "you heard of from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT not many days from now."

6 So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

9 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. 10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. 11 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."

12 Then they RETURNED TO JERUSALEM from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

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