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Last Words

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[Acts 1.6-11 NLT]

So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

*7 He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. 8 **But** you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

*9 After saying this, (Jesus) he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. 10 As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but **someday** he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”*

.....LAST RECORDED WORDS between Jesus and His Disciples



[**TITLE SLIDE:**]

FAMOUS LAST WORDS:

1. Well, that wasn't supposed to happen
2. Bob, you have any grenades left ? Throw me one...
3. Dad, why is the apple on my head ?
4. Did you hear thunder ? Oh well, hurry up and putt.
5. Hell's Angel ? Then why are you all dressed like one of the Village People ?
6. I folded my parachute myself.
7. It's one of the things I've always wanted to do before I die.
8. So, you're a cannibal ?
9. The trick with a charging rhino is to stand perfectly still.

There were some very significant last words spoken in these verses

- Last chance the disciples had to speak to Jesus in the flesh
- The last chance Jesus had to speak to them

What do these words mean for us TODAY?


- Going to look at last Words of 3 different groups in this Scriptures
 - DISCIPLES / JESUS / ANGELS
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DISCIPLE'S WORDS

- 40 Days AFTER Jesus' Resurrection
 - Last Time... In Jesus' physical presence
 - Last Time to SEE Jesus with their Eyes
 - Last Time to SPEAK with Him

- **What did they say??**

Disciples said.....

 - "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"

- Wanted Jesus as **Earthly King**
- Wanted Israel's Freedom
- Wanted to Rule with Jesus..... ("Who was greatest?")
(James & John mother... sit next to Jesus)

Jesus demonstrated His Power

- Miracles / Heal Sick / Raise Dead / Calm Storms
- Obviously had Power to kick ROME out of Israel.....
...**What's Jesus waiting for??**
- Their minds were fixed on this present world

BUT.... Jesus spent countless hours Teaching Disciples....

- The Kingdom of God is **NOT A PLACE**....

Jesus gave Many parables:

Faithful and Unfaithful Servants / Laborers in the Vineyard /
Stewards and Talents / Ten Virgins / Unforgiving Servant /
Wedding Banquet / keys to the Kingdom

- Many times Jesus said His Kingdom is not of this world
- Luke 17.20-21 *Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."*

.....Jesus wants to rule **IN THE HEARTS** of men and women

BUT STILL.... right up to moment Jesus ascended to heaven.....

Disciples revealed their Ignorance



Do our lives also reflect ignorance of God's plans??

Are our hearts Fixed on this Kingdom of this World??


- We search Bible for promises for us **TODAY??**
- Do whatever it takes to get along with this world.... **COMPROMISE**
- God's greatest goal for my life is my **HAPPINESS**
- We think **God wants me to be OVER-COMER...**
 - **FINANCES / HOME / CAREER / SPORTS / MINISTRY**
 - **NO**..... Overcomer of this **WORLD** it's **VALUES** and **SIN**
- Like the Disciples, do we keep hoping for an earthly kingdom??

God desires His Kingdom to reign supreme in our hearts!

Let's look at....


JESUS' WORDS

Jesus didn't scold them when they asked... BUT He said

 - "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know.

- "Get those thoughts out of your heads right now..."
- "Let's Focus on the present!"

- Jesus knew they'd have better understanding in 10 Days.... Pentecost

 **But** you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

- Jesus revealed their IMMEDIATE assignment.... **AND OURS**.....
Didn't He??

Jesus **REDIRECTED** their Focus

- Their Focus caused them to miss God's **Immediate** plan

QUOTE: *When it comes to End Time Prophecies, the important thing is not to be just curious about the future but to be busy in the present, sharing the message of God's spiritual kingdom.*

- NOTHING WRONG with studying Future Prophecies...
- **NOT at the expense of missing the harvest of Eternal Souls set before us**
- For many, we've LOST FOCUS on anything of God
- Many times our FOCUS is on the wrong thing at the wrong time

Jesus **REDIRECTED** their Focus.... AND He told them HOW they WOULD do it...

- Jesus desires His KINGDOM in hearts of people EVERYWHERE!
- He said... **"BUT FIRST you'll need MY POWER!!!"**
 - Same Power Jesus Operated in here on earth
 - Same Power that Raised Him from Dead
 - Same Power that Drew them to Jesus
 - Same Power that makes dead men ALIVE
 - Same Power that creates New Hearts
 - **Same Power that Draws others**

God wants as many as possible to be touched by Holy Spirit's Power

- Never get ahead of Holy Spirit
- Never Plan without Him
- God want's us all to be Witnesses... but in His Power

Let's look Final Words....



ANGEL'S WORDS



After saying this, (Jesus) he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them.

- The Angels also had something Important to Say

*"Men of Galilee," they said, "why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but **someday** he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!"*

These words are Important because they **PROMISE US SOMETHING**

**One day we'll see with our OWN EYES,
Jesus returning in the Clouds FOR US!!!**

- The same way Jesus left... He'll return

- We will recognize Him
- You'll know Him by SIGHT!
- **He's returning for YOU BELIEVER**

- When you're tired or weary.... REMEMBER the time is coming!
 - One YEAR closer than last year
 - Month / Week / Day / Hour-Minute

Let the Disciple's, Jesus' and the Angel's Last words encourage you today

DISCIPLE'S Words..... Our Hearts Fixed on God's Kingdom

JESUS' Words..... Focus on now full of His POWER

ANGEL'S Words..... Jesus is coming sooner than you think!



[TITLE SLIDE:]

PRAY.....