



86. *The Valley of Waiting*

“Then they [the Disciples] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. These all, with one mind, were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers,” Acts 1:12-14.

Just before Jesus ascended, He told His Disciples,
“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," Acts 1:8. Notice the future tense of those two statements ... you *will receive* power and you *shall be* my witnesses. The Disciples were waiting for the Holy Spirit to empower them ... waiting to be witnesses throughout the world. They were waiting in the gap between the Ascension and Pentecost. They were waiting in one mind and continually devoting themselves to prayer.

Many Christians spend time in a valley of waiting before or between times of ministry. Are you in one of those times? Don't wait in isolation. Don't wait alone. Be of one mind with other strong believers who understand the times of waiting. And pray. Continually devote yourself to prayer. Pray. Then pray. And then pray some more. Develop calluses on your knees when you are in the valley of waiting.

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