



\*Can the sequel be better than the original?

*\*Acts 1:6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

The answer is found in the past. (Prophecy)

1. **V:6** This is the background of the story of Pentecost. (This is the first time that the nation of Israel and the Church are connected)
2. **V:7-8** Don't focus on the when of an event but seek the Holy Spirit and with Him, you will have the power to face whatever comes.

*\*Luke 21:5 Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, 6 "As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down." 7 "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?" 8 He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them. 9 When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away." 10 Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom. 11 There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven."*

\*Jesus does answer the "When" question.

*\*Luke 21:20 "When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. 21 Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. 22 For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. 23 How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. 24 They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."*

## \*The times of the Gentiles are fulfilled, what does this mean?

1. **V:24** The pattern for this is found in Genesis. God told Abraham the timing or the “when” of the Promise land. **\*Genesis 15:16** In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin (iniquity) of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."
2. **The Gentiles:** We gentiles have salvation because of the Promise of **Acts 1:8** the witness of Jesus through the Spirit-filled people reaching out to our world.
3. **V:20-23** Describes what the nation of Israel will be going through before God comes and restores its nation to the Kingdom.

*\*Luke 21:25 "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26 People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27 At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." 29 He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. 30 When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. 31 Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. 34 "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. 35 For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."*

## The Great Escape started at Pentecost

1. **Acts 1:8** The escape from the power of sin through sanctification. (The infilling of the Holy Spirit)
2. The next escape is for a generation that is blessed to see the signs describe in **Luke 21:36** for those who are watchful, praying, and looking for Jesus return.