

ACTS 1:15-26 MATTHIAS IS ELECTED

In those days

- Which Days?
 - o The days between the ascension and Pentecost (9 days of prayer and waiting)
 - o The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon them, they were not yet confirmed

Peter stood up among the brethren (the company of persons was in all about a hundred and twenty),

- Is it a coincidence that it is Peter who addresses them?
 - o Then **Peter stood up** with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and addressed the crowd: Acts 2:14
 - o And after there had been much debate, **Peter rose** and said to them (Acts 15:7)

Explanation of Judas' Fate

- ¹⁶“Brethren, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David, concerning Judas who was guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ For he was numbered among us, and was allotted his share in this ministry.
- ¹⁸ (Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness; and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹ And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their language Akel'dama, that is, Field of Blood.)

Peter applies scripture to Judas' Situation

- ²⁰ For it is written in the book of Psalms,
 - o **‘Let his habitation become desolate, and let there be no one to live in it’;** and
 - o **‘His office let another take.’**

Peter interprets the scripture authoritatively:

- ²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.”

Matthias is Chosen

- ²³ And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsab'bas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthi'as. ²⁴ And they prayed and said, “Lord, who knowest the hearts of all men, show which one of these two thou hast chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and

apostleship from which Judas turned aside, to go to his own place.”²⁶ And they cast lots for them,

- and the lot fell on Matthi'as; and he was enrolled with the eleven apostles.

HIS OFFICE LET ANOTHER TAKE

EPISCOPOS

Bishop, overseer, guardian

- Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you **guardians**, to feed the church of the Lord which he obtained with his own blood. (Acts 20:28)
- Now a **bishop** must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sensible, dignified, hospitable, an apt teacher,³ no drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, and no lover of money. (1 Tim 3:2)
- Paul and Timothy, servants^[a] of Christ Jesus,
- To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the **bishops** and deacons: (Phil 1:1)
- For a **bishop**, as God's steward, must be blameless; he must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain (Tit 1:7)

PRESBUTEROS

Elder, Presbyter

- And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting, they committed them to the Lord in whom they believed. (Acts 14:23)
- And when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to the apostles and the elders about this question. (Acts 15:2)
- When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders (15:4)
- The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter.(15:6)
- As they went on their way through the cities, they delivered to them for observance the decisions which had been reached by the apostles and elders who were at Jerusalem. ⁵ So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily. (16:4-5)
- And from Mile'tus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the elders of the church.(20:17)
- On the following day Paul went in with us to James; and all the elders were present (21:18)

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR ORDINATION

- These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them.(Acts 6:6)
- Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the elders laid their hands upon you. (1 Tim 4:14)
- This is why I left you in Crete, that you might amend what was defective, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you (Tit 1:5)
- "Hence I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; (2 Tim 1:6).
- "While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off."(Acts 13:2-3)
- Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor participate in another man's sins; keep yourself pure."(1 Tim 5:22)

CHURCH FATHERS ON ORDINATION

- Laodicea, Peter ordered the people to meet on the following day; and having ordained one of those who followed him as bishop over them, and others as presbyters, and having baptized multitudes, and restored to health all who were troubled with sicknesses or demons (**Clement of Rome Recognitions book 10 ch 68 (27-97 ad)**)
- "Take care to do all things in harmony with God, with the bishop presiding in the place of God, and with the presbyters in the place of the council of the apostles, and with the deacons, who are most dear to me, entrusted with the business of Jesus Christ, who was with the Father from the beginning and is at last made manifest" (**Ignatius of Antioch Epistle to the Magnesians ch 6 [50-117 AD]**)
- "In like manner let everyone respect the deacons as they would respect Jesus Christ, and just as they respect the bishop as a type of the Father, and the presbyters as the council of God and college of the apostles. Without these, it cannot be called a church.(**Ignatius of Antioch Epistle to the Trallians ch 3 [50-117 AD]**)
- And all the apostles of the Lord are priests, who do inherit here neither lands nor houses, but serve God and the altar continually.(**Irenaeus of Lyons Book 4 ch 8.3 (120-180 ad)**)
- "A multitude of other pieces of advice to particular persons is written in the holy books: some for presbyters, some for bishops and deacons; and others for widows, of whom we shall have opportunity to speak elsewhere" (**Clement of Alexandria The Paedagogus Book III [150-215 AD]**)
- As often as a bishop takes of the sacred mysteries, let the deacons and presbyters be gathered together, clothed in white robes, brilliant in the view of all the people; and in like manner with a reader.(**Hippolytus Appendix can 37 [170-236 AD]**)
- So, too, the apostles, and those who have become like apostles, being priests according to the Great High Priest and having received knowledge of the service of God, know under the Spirit's teaching for which sins, and when, and how they ought to offer sacrifices, and recognize for which they ought not to do so (**Origen on Prayer ch 18 (185-254 ad)**)