

## **Digging Deeper: One Giant Leap – Acts 1:9–26**

*Waiting on God* by Robert Lee

### **Day 1**

Pray for Hope and read Acts 1:9. Yeshua (Jesus) had just spoken to his disciples for the last time before being taken from them into heaven. Christ's slow ascension into heaven was illuminated by the Shekinah glory of Yahweh (God) that calls to mind the recent promise Yeshua made that He must go away but would return to take them to be with Himself in glory. Also, read John 14:1–4 and note that John chapters 14–17 are known as the Farewell Discourse given by Yeshua to eleven of his disciples immediately following the conclusion of the Last Supper in Jerusalem on the night before Yeshua's crucifixion.

### **Day 2**

Encourage one another often and pray for God's Grace and Mercy, then read Acts 1:10 & 11. In the end of times and before the Great Tribulation begins, Yeshua will descend from heaven as promised, much like His ascension into heaven. Also, read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.

### **Day 3**

Pray for Unity and read Acts 1:12–14. The disciples returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, which is East Jerusalem's most prominent point. This holy site is associated with Islam, Judaism and Christianity and has been used as a place of prayer and burial since the days of the First Temple. It is first mentioned in Scripture when the dove returned to Noah's ark carrying an olive branch (Genesis 8:11). Since that event, the olive branch has been known as a symbol of *peace* to the world. The *upper room* where the apostles gathered with others (verse 13) makes reference to a location that both Peter and Paul used in their ministries. The joining together in the upper room was a sign of true unity and an act of grace.

### **Day 4**

Pray for Spiritual Discipline and read Acts 1:15–17. In those days Peter stood up among the male and female believers of Yeshua the Christ, who at the time totaled about 120. As Peter spoke words of promise, he assured them that the recent traumatic experience that they all were enduring was essential to the fulfillment of Scripture. Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, who once shared in their ministry, served as a guide for the ones who arrested Yeshua. Also read John 6:70,71.

### **Day 5**

Pray for Repentance and Spiritual Conviction and read Acts 1:18–20. Judas the son of Simon Iscariot purchased a field with the blood money he received in exchange for betraying Yeshua. As a result of his wickedness, Judas "fell headlong" and "his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out" upon

the field that he purchased. Results from this horrific event is the fulfillment of the prophecy of David in Psalms 69:25 and 109:8. As everyone throughout Jerusalem became aware of the way in which Judas died, they named this land Akeldama (or Field of Blood) in their own language. This “place of hell” (Tophet or Topheth) is also known as the Potter’s Field (Matthew 27:3–10), and is where ancient Israelites sacrificed their children to the Canaanite god Molech (2 Chronicles 28:3; 33:6; Jeremiah 7:31; 19:2–6).

### **Day 6**

Pray for Spiritual Wisdom and read Acts 1:21–26. Peter proclaimed to the believers that it was necessary to replace Judas and choose a “witness” from the men who had been with the disciples the entire time that Yeshua was living among them (from John’s baptism to His ascension). Two men were nominated: Joseph called Barsabbas and Matthias. The lot was cast and fell to Matthias. Petition to Yahweh (God) through constant prayer and have faith that He will answer your prayers in *His* perfect time.