

Acts 1:12-26

Surprising Spirituality

Prayerful Anticipation of the Advent of the Holy Spirit Followed by Flipping a Coin to Determine a New Apostle?!?

The Prologue of the Book of Acts 1:1-3

From the Resurrection to the Ascension (40 Days) 1:4-11

From the Ascension to the Birthday of the NT Church (10 Days) 1:12-26

Prayerful Anticipation of the Advent of the Holy Spirit 1:12-14

The Ascension took place on the Mt of Olives, just east of Jerusalem proper v12

The Apostles are listed here in their three usual subgroups v13

Subgroup 1: Peter, John, James and Andrew

Subgroup 2: Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew

Subgroup 3: James (son of Alphaeus), Simon the Zealot and Judas (son of James)

Believers in Christ, men and women (120 in total) devoted themselves to prayer as they waited for the advent of the Holy Spirit in His NT ministry. v14

Flipping a Coin to Replace a Flawed Apostle?!? v15-26

The need and the requirements for a 12th Apostle described v15-22

The 120 nominate two men (1: Joseph AKA Barsabbas/Justus and 2: Matthias) v23

The 120 pray for the Lord to reveal His will v24-25

The 120 draw straws//flipped a coin to make the decision (Proverbs 16:33) v26

Take This To Heart

1: True Spirituality often looks like “nothin’ special” to the human eye.

2: Flipping a coin can be a legitimate way for believers to make certain non-moral decisions and has the advantage of eliminating any appearance of favoritism.