

THE GREAT WENCHOSTER BIBLE

Acts 1: 15-26

15. And lo! In those days, which are the days after and not before and especially not those yet to come, Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples with much difficulty, for they were closely gathered, jostling together under a portico and smiling at each other, and the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty give or take a few – which Thaddeus did - and said
16. Men and brethren, (and the women did raise their eyebrows at this misogyny and did beat their batter more vigourously), this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David, occasionally set to music, spake, or sang, before concerning Judas – b'stard! - which was guide to them that took Jesus.
17. For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry, and indeed, was the keeper of the purse – yes, the rather nice embroidered one - and did buy all kinds of sweetmeats, even bread and wine for us, and pay for our lodgings.
18. Now this man purchased a field – well, more of a small plot full of thistles, actually - with the reward of iniquity; and whilst inspecting it he did fall headlong into a ditch in which there was lying a rusty ploughshare, and he did impale himself upon it in an super-nasty way, and burst asunder in the midst, and all his bowels gushed out. Not a pretty sight, oh no! And some of the women did turn pale at that graphic description, and some of the men also.
19. (Editor's note: And this has become known unto all the dwellers at Jerusalem; insomuch as that field is called in their proper tongue, Aeldama, that is to say, The field of blood, and in the dead common parlance, Guts Meadow.)
20. And Peter said, For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man – or woman, or ass, dwell therein: and his bishopric let another take. [1][2]
21. Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, and did tarry and wander, and annoyingly would stroll up mountains to pray, and did sleep and sup in our company, and did partake of our wine and fish and pottage,
22. Beginning from the baptism of John – yes, yes, the one with the pigeon - unto that same day that He was taken up from us, must one be ordained by another's hand to be a witness with us of His resurrection. And Martha did say, 'Ere! What about us? but Peter did ignore her so that she was miffed mightily. But Thaddeus smiled.
23. And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus Minute, and Matthias son of Kevin.
24. And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two Thou hast chosen,
25. That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place where there is wailing and gnashing of teeth and eternal fire, and where devils use tiny pitchforks to jab at the tender parts. And coddling grinders after that.
26. And they gave forth their lots on small pieces of paper and cast them into a large drum which was rotated. And Peter did thrust his hand into the barrel and drew out a slip and did unfold it and read the name written thereon; and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles. And after his acceptance speech in which he thanked his mother, his sisters, his agent, his dressmaker friend in Jericho, and all those who had inspired him along the Way, there was much congratulating and popping of corks, but the women remained sullen and did put meagre helpings of stew upon the flatbreads.

Notes

[1] Scholars insist that the use of the term “bishopric” is a later ecclesiastical translation.

[2] Some disagree.