

# One Man's Vision Changed Our World

In his tribute to Steve Jobs President Obama's affirmed: "Steve was fond of saying that he lived every day like it was his last. Because he did, he transformed our lives, refined entire industries, and achieved one of the rarest feats in human history: he changed the way each of us sees the world." Jobs's was a visionary and creative genius. He put the internet in our pocket.

Evan Doll, an ex-Apple engineer, confesses that you'd say to yourself: "Wonder what Steve would say about this? When you are kicking around an idea for a product or a feature, you'll even say to yourself, "Steve Jobs will love this!" or, more often, "Steve Jobs would say this isn't good enough." He's like the conscience sitting on your shoulder.

Jesus laid down a mandate and a vision for 120 disciples. A vision that so inspired and captured their imaginations that in thirty years they changed the face of the world. Jesus says: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18–20.

Jesus continues: "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" Luke 24:46–48. "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." Acts 1:8. Peter, John, Stephen, Philip, Barnabas, Paul, were captivated by this vision.

Acts records how this handful of people grasp what was a new paradigm, implemented it, and in the words of their opponents had "filled Jerusalem with their teaching" (Acts 5:28); "These men who have caused trouble all over the" Acts 17:6; "We have found this man a real pest and troublemaker, a fellow stirring up riots among the Jews all over the world" Acts 24:5.

Acts has a lot to say to us who often appear to be so half-hearted, lacking a vibrant faith. It rebukes our lack of expectancy, our indifference to taking the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Jesus is our visionary. Jesus is like the conscience sitting on our shoulder. Will we live every day as if it is our last? Because if we do, God can use us to transform people's lives through the gospel, to transform society, and achieve the same results as first century Christians, change the face of the world, our world.