

Acts OVERVIEW

A Record of the Transition from the Old to the New

Acts of the Ascended Christ Via the Spirit through the Apostles/Churches
Into All the World with All of the Word

The Church Enlightened, Endorsed, Enabled, and Reproduced throughout the Mediterranean World

Maturation of the Church Age through the Apostles' Preaching and Writing of the New Testament and the Spread of Christianity beyond the Jews, Judaism, and Jerusalem by Way of Evangelism, Discipleship, and Church Planting Missions

JERUSALEM - 1-7	JUDEA & SAMARIA - 8-12	UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH - 13-28
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Peter in the Forefront

Paul in the Forefront

1 – Christ's 40 Days of Teaching, His Ascension, the Church's Waiting for the Spirit's Enablement

2 – Endorsement and Empowerment of the First Church by Christ through the Spirit, 3,000 saved and Added to It

3-7 – Great Growth of Church, Apostles' Bold Preaching and Persecution, Stephen's Death

8:4-25 - Philip Takes Gospel to the Samaritans

8:26-40 – Philip Reaches Ethiopian

ISAIAH 53

9:1-31 – Conversion of Saul

9:32-43 – Gospel into Judea

10-11 – Peter Reaches Cornelius with the Gospel

12 – Herod's Killing of James, His Imprisonment of Peter and Release, Herod's Unsightly Death

13-14
Paul's 1st
Missions
Journey

15
Jerusalem
Council - Jews
and Gentiles
Saved by
Grace

15:36-
18:22
Paul's 2nd
Missions
Journey

18:23-
21:16
Paul's 3rd
Missions
Journey

21-28
Paul's
Roman
Hearings,
Jailing &
Shipwreck

Book of Acts Provides the Context within which the New Testament Books were Written. It's Abrupt Ending Emphasizes that Church Age Ministry is to Continue, as it was Started, until the Rapture.

"preaching...and teaching those things which concern...Christ"

LUKE – Writer of the Book of Acts

Writer, Apologist, Historian, Physician and Missionary

Luke joined Paul's missionary team when they sailed from Troas to Macedonia (Acts 16:10-11). He stayed with him until Philippi (16:25-17:1). At the end of the third journey, five years later, when Paul passed through Philippi, Luke rejoined him (20:6), and apparently remained with him throughout Paul's remaining years. This is discerned by Luke's usage of the word "we" or "they" in his account.

In Philemon 24, Paul refers to Luke as one of his "fellow-laborers". As "the beloved physician" in Colossians 4:14. He is seen in II Timothy 4:11 as staying by Paul's side in the end when others had departed. The longstanding relationship of Luke to Paul speaks volumes of his character.

The combined content of the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts comprises almost 30% of the New Testament volume of words. He wrote what many say is the best Greek of the New Testament writers. He was given to details and gave special attention to historical aspects related to his two accounts.

Most feel Luke was a Greek because of his name. Also, because of the grouping of names in Colossians 4:10-11, "who are of the circumcision" (i.e., Jewish), in which he is left out and not cited until v. 14. However, Aristarchus and Marcus (cited in v. 10) are Gentile names; as is Lucius, who is noted in Romans 16:21 as being a kinsman to Paul (hence Jewish). Luke, who was with Paul when he was accused of bringing a Gentile named Trophimus into the temple (Acts 21:26-29), would have likely also been in the temple area with Paul and therefore cited if he had been a Gentile. Some have stated that Luke showed in his writings a great knowledge of the temple – one that, in those days, a Jew would have, but not a Gentile. Further, Romans 3:2 states that unto the Jews "were committed the oracles of God." Is Luke the one lone exception – if so, why? All the rest of the New Testament books are easily ascribed to Jews, as are the Old Testament ones. *So, Luke's ethnicity is not a settled matter.*

Outline

Acts 1 - On-Going Christianity

Irrefutable Resurrection - 1:1-3

Imminent Reinforcement - 1:4-8

Identical Return - 1:9-11

Intently Readyng - 1:12-14

Installation of a Replacement - 1:15-26

Acts 2 - Attention-Getting Christianity

The Setting - 2:1

The Sign - 2:2-4

The Sensational - 2:5-13

The Sermon - 2:14-36

The Salvations - 2:37-41

The Steadfastness - 2:42-47

Acts 3 - Miracle-Working Christianity

Great Wonder - 3:1-11

Grievous Message - 3:12-18

Grasping the Meaning - 3:19-26

Acts 4-5 - Heart-Revealing Christianity

Priestly Malice - 4:1-4

Pointed Message - 4:5-12

Passionate Messengers - 4:13-22

Prayer Meeting - 4:23-30

Possessions Mutual - 4:31-37

Hypocritical Action - 5:1-11

Higher Authority - 5:12-32

Heeded Advice - 5:33-42

Acts 6-7 - Heaven-Opening Christianity

Stephen's Spirituality - 6:1-15

Stephen's Sermon - 7:1-53

Stephen's Stoning - 7:54-60

Acts 8 - Chariot-Chasing Christianity

Saul's Rampaging - 8:1-3

Samaritans' Rejoicing - 8:4-25

Steward's Realization - 8:26-40

Acts 9 - Soul-Searching Christianity

Saul Confronted - 9:1-9

Saul Converted - 9:10-18

Saul Conferred - 9:19-31

Signs Continue - 9:32-43

Acts 10-11 - Prejudice-Erasing Christianity

Angelic Visitation - 10:1-8

A Vision - 10:9-23

Another Verification - 10:24-11:18

Additional Validation - 11:19-26

Association in View - 11:27-30

Acts 12 - Jail-Breaking Christianity

Martyrdom of James - 12:1-2

Marveling of Peter - ~~3-19~~ 12:3-19

Marring of Herod - 12:20-25

Acts 13-28 - World-Reaching Christianity 13-28 (Volume 2 of 2)