

# General Information on the Book of Acts

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# Introduction

Acts of the Holy Ghost

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## General Details

Writer

Luke is considered to be the writer of the book of Acts. Luke probably wrote Acts while he was at Rome or Caesarea. Acts 1:1-3; Lk.1:1-4; Acts 16:8-10; 20:6; Col. 4:14; II Tim. 4:11

## Date

The book of Acts was written between A.D 61-64. Covers 3% of the Bible from the ascension of Christ, about A.D. 33, through the imprisonment of Paul in Rome, about A.D. 62.

## Theme

The Acts of the Holy Ghost in the lives of the Apostles. (Acts 1:4-5)

Acts was written to provide history of the growth of the early church. Special emphasis is given on the importance of the day of Pentecost and on Believers being empowered to be effective witnesses for Jesus Christ. Acts 1:4-5; 2:1; 20:16; I Cor. 16:8

Luke was determined to remind his readers of what took place on the day of Pentecost and that they should be moving on in the Holy Ghost not away from Him.

Acts sheds much light on truths concerning the indwelling of the Holy Ghost, who empowers, guides, teaches, and serves as our Counselor and Comforter. We are enlightened and encouraged by the many miracles that were performed during this time by the disciples—namely Peter, John, Stephen, Philip and Paul.

## Key Verse & Other Important Passages

Acts 1:8—But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

**Other Important Passages:** 2:4, 38; 4:12-31; 5:32;6:3,5;7:51,55; 9:3-6,15,16;10:38; 44;11:15,16,24; 13:2,4,52; 15:8; 16:6,7,31; 19:2,6; 20:28.

## Synopsis

Acts gives the history of the Christian church and the spread of the gospel of Jesus Christ, as well as the opposition to it. Although many faithful servants were used to preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ, Saul, whose name was changed to Paul, was the most influential. Before he was converted, Saul took great pleasure in persecuting and killing Christians. Saul's dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-31) is a highlight of the book of Acts. After his conversion he went to the extreme opposite of loving God and preaching His Word with power, through the Holy Ghost.

The disciples were empowered by the Holy Ghost to be His witnesses in Jerusalem (chapters 1-8:3), Judea and Samaria (chapters 8:4-11:18), Antioch (11:19-13:3) and to the ends of the earth (chapters 13:4-28). (21:17-26:32)

## Understanding the Book of Acts

The transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant of grace and faith is seen in several key events in Acts. 3:25; 7:8

a. The change in the ministry of the Holy Ghost, whose primary function in the Old Testament was the external "anointing" but now to be within them.

Moses - Numbers 11:17 And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.

Othniel Jud. 3:8-10, Gideon 6:34; 11:29; 13:25; 14:6,19; Saul 1 Sam 10:6-10 2Ch 15:1

On the Day of Pentecost the Holy Ghost came to dwell in the hearts of the disciples that were assembled together fulfilling the promise Jesus gave to them.

Luke 24:49—And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

John 14:16-*And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;*

*17-Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

b. The indwelling Spirit is the gift of God to those who have come to know Jesus Christ as their Savior. You are not Baptized or indwelt with the Holy Ghost at new birth.

The infilling comes after you have received the gift of Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord, and then receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

John 14:17; Eph 1:13,14; Romans 8:9-11; I Cor. 3:16; 6:19; 2Co 6:16

2. Paul had a dramatic transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant. Phil. 3:6,8,9; Acts 8:3; 9:17

3. Peter's vision of the sheet in Acts 10:9-15 is another sign of the transition from the Old to the New Covenant. The Unity of Jew and Gentile in one faith is provided. The "clean" animals symbolizing the Jews and the "unclean" animals symbolizing the Gentiles were both declared "cleansed" by God through the sacrificial death of Christ. No longer under the Old Covenant without the power to keep God's Laws, both are now united in the New Covenant of grace through faith in the shed blood of Christ on the cross.

B. God can take ordinary men and endue them with power through His Spirit.

1. God took a group of fisherman and used them to turn the world right side up. Acts 17:6

God took Saul of Tarsus a Christ-hating murderer and changed him into the greatest Christian evangelist the world has ever known, the author of fourteen books of the New Testament. God used persecution (Acts 8:1-9:4) to cause the quickest expansion of a "new faith" in the history of the world.

God will do the same through us-changing our hearts, empowering us by the Holy Ghost, and giving us a passion to spread the good news of salvation through Christ. If we try to accomplish these things in our own power, we will fail. Like the disciples in Acts 1:4,8, we are to wait for the empowering of the Spirit, then go in His power to fulfill the Great Commission (Mat.28:19-20; Mk.16:15-20).

3. Christ worked and taught "through the Holy Ghost." While He was on earth in the flesh. Christ was totally dependent upon the Holy Ghost. He had to surrender Himself and make Himself available to the Spirit.

4. The Holy Ghost gives to the disciples the power to witness the Word of God that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God. Acts 1:1,2; Luke 3:16-17; Luke 4:14

Through the power of the Holy Ghost Jesus taught fishermen that He could fill ships with fish to the sinking point with broken nets (Luke 5:1-11)

Luke 5:10 *And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.*

Here are a few scriptures showing the words revealed to the disciples, Lk.6:20-49; 8:4-17;9:22-23;12:22-50;14:27;18:31; 19:10; 21:28,36; 22:19-20;31-32,40,46,69; 24:6-7,32

Luke 24:49 *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*

Luke 8:18—Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

Matt. 16:18

*The four gospels showed us how the foundation of that house was laid;*

*The book of Acts shows us how the superstructure began to be raised,*

1. All the promises of God are made good,

a. The great promises of the descent of the Holy Ghost, and his wonderful operations, in the apostles no longer weak-headed and weak-hearted, able now to bear (John 16:12-15) as bold as lions and face those hardships of which they once trembled as lambs.

The Holy Ghost makes the preaching of the Word mighty to the pulling down of Satan's strong holds,

2Cor. 10:4—(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

The word preached without the power of the Holy Ghost can be preached in vain. The commission granted to the apostles was executed, and power to witness was exerted and souls were saved and miracles happened, restoring sick bodies to health and dead bodies to life, miracles of judgment, striking rebels blind or dead; and much special miracles in imparting spiritual gifts to them.

Acts 19:11—And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:

Romans 1:11—For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;

Acts 13:11—And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

1Tim. 1:20—Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

b. The proofs of Christ's resurrection in the gospels are abundantly confirmed in Acts,

Acts 1:3 *To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:*

Christ called His disciples to be His witnesses through the power of the Holy Ghost, as fishers of men, and enclosing multitudes in the gospel net, as lights of the world, and salt of the earth, so here we have the world enlightened by them; the day-spring from on high we find shining more and more. The corn of wheat, which fell to the ground, springs up and bears much fruit; the grain of mustard-seed there is here a great tree; and the kingdom of heaven, which was then at hand, is here set up. Christ's prediction of the persecution which preachers of the gospel should be afflicted was abundantly fulfilled, with extraordinary supports and comforts in their afflictions.

1Kings 8:56—Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant.

2. Every Holy Ghost filled believer is a member of the Christian church which is the tabernacle of God among men,

Acts gives us an account of the framing and rearing of the tabernacle of God among men.

3. The book of Acts reveals the continuing ministry of Jesus Christ 1:2-9

Acts 1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

# The Command & Promise of Power to Witness

Christ gave and taught His commandments to those whom He had *chosen*, so that they in turn could teach other's His commandments. Acts 1:1-8; 2:39 All chosen believers are commanded to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost to be witnesses.

A. "Ye shall Receive Power after that the Holy Ghost has come upon you"

1. The Apostles with Power 2:43; 4:33; 5:12;

2. Peter and John with Power 2:14-41; 3:1-4:20; 5:15-16; 8:14, 17; 10:44

3. Stephen with Power 6:8

4. Philip with Power 8:5-13; 39-40

5. Paul with Power 13:9-11, 47; 14:10,20; 16:18,26; 19:6,11-12; 20:9-12; 26:18; 28:5-9

B. "Ye shall be Witnesses unto Me"

1. Jerusalem 1:1-8:3

2. Judea and Samaria 8:4-11:18

3. Antioch 11:19-13:3

4. Paul's three missionary journeys 13:4-21:16

5. Paul in Jerusalem 21:17-26:32

6. Paul on his way to Rome 27:1-28:31

## God's Pattern for Soul Winning

Acts 14:22—Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

*Four essentials to success in soul winning:*

## UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST.

Acts 14:1 *And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.*

SUCCESSFUL SOUL WINNERS WORK TOGETHER.

· Unified spirits working together for the salvation of souls.

"They both went together"

"So spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and the Greeks **believed**"

A unity of sincere love for all ministers of the Lord;

UNIFIED IN SPIRIT AND IN FAITH!

All God's servants should be: serving together & working together.

Eph 4:1-6- v.3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace...

THE DESIRE OF OUR LORD HAS BEEN, AND STILL REMAINS, THAT WE BE ONE WITH ANOTHER AS HE IS WITH THE FATHER.

John 17:21 *That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.* (17:11; 17:22,23)

## **FAITHFULNESS IN THE BODY**

### **1. We must speak the Word that men might believe.**

Ro 10:17 *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

2Co 2:17 *For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.*

### **2. We must go to where the multitudes are.**

The servant of God is to speak the truth in love.

The servant of God has to both contain the witness of His Spirit, and to speak the witness of His Word.

### **3. Let the Word exhort us:**

1Co 4:2 *Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.*

1Co 4:17 *For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church.*

Col 1:7 *As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellow servant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ;*

1Th 5:24 *Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.*

2Ti 2:2 *And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*

## **FULLNESS IN THE BODY**

"Filled with joy" & "Filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 13:52; Col. 2:9

Eph 1:23 *Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*

Eph 4:13 *Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*

## **FOLLOWING THE VOICE OF THE LORD**

When facing opposition, a servant must carefully discern what is best for the furtherance of the Gospel, and the glory of God.

The time(s) to stand firm against opposition will reap greater results.

Other time(s), leaving an area will bring in greater harvest.

It is vital to be Holy Ghost filled to hear what the Spirit is directing you to do.

Ac 16:6 *Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,*

Mt 10:23,24—But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come 24 The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. Letting the Lord instill that truth to you, will greatly empower your place in the ministry

- Shall we fear suffering?

## IV. A Fact Every Servant of the Lord must Never Forget :

### The Servant of the Lord will Suffer Persecution

Acts 14:22—Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

Acts 20:23,24; 21:13

1Thes. 3:3—That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto.

2Tim. 3:12—Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

## V. Outline of Acts

The key verse of Acts is 1:8 and the key word is "witness." Acts consists of the details of two main MISSIONS or crusades of the early Christian Church.

1. Home Missions (featuring Peter) Ch. 1-12

2. Foreign Missions (featuring Paul) Ch. 13-28

1. **Home Missions** - Peter is the focal apostle throughout Chapters 1-12. Peter is also joined by the "other apostles" (Christ's original twelve disciples minus Judas Iscariot and with the addition of Matthias). Apostle John and Deacons Stephen and Philip are particularly prominent in these chapters. (Covered in *Sections 1 & 2* of our study of Acts.)

2. **Foreign Missions** - Paul is the focal apostle throughout Chapters 13-28. Barnabas and his nephew John Mark accompanied Paul on the First Missionary Journey (12:25). Because of a disagreement between Paul and Barnabas, Paul is accompanied by Silas instead of Barnabas during the Second Missionary Journey. Paul's companions during his Third Missionary Journey included Timothy and Titus. These two men are mentioned in the epistles Paul wrote during this time. Luke also accompanied Paul on the return trip to Jerusalem, as indicated by the "we-section" of Acts. As the writer of Acts, Luke identifies the times in his writing when he was a first-hand witness of an account. He identifies himself in each of these passages by using the pronoun "we." (Acts 20:6) (Covered in *Section 5* of our study of Acts.)

(The Two major sections of Acts and the ministries of Paul and Peter have many similarities as well as differences. See Addendum, Chart 1 for a more detailed look at this study.)

We will organize our study of the Book of Acts into seven sections:

General information about Acts. (This current section.)

The Apostles at Jerusalem (1-7)

The Gospel Spreading (8-12)

The First Missionary Journey (13:1-15:35)

The Second Missionary Journey (15:36-18:22)

The Third Missionary Journey (18:23-21:14)

Paul's Journey to Rome (21:15-28:31)

# Comparison of Paul and Peter

(Chart 1) Both Peter and Paul do many of the same things and experience many of the same problems in Acts.	Peter (Acts 1-12)	Paul (Acts 13-28)
Witness to Risen Christ	1:21-22	23:11; 26:16
Spirit initiates	2:1-40	13:1-40
Heals lame and speech	3:12-26	13:1-40
Defended by Pharisees in Sanhedrin	5:34-39	23:9
Appoints leaders with prayer/laying on of hands	6:1-6	14:23
Persecution (stoning) leads to wider mission	6:8-8:4	14:19-23
Accused of acting verses Moses	6:13-14	21:20-21; 25:8
Encounters a magician	8:9-24	13:6-12
Laying on hands gives Spirit	8:14-17	19:1-6
Raises the dead	9:36-43	20:9-12
Gentiles try to worship him	10:25-2	14:13-15
Defends Gentile mission in Jerusalem	Ch. 11	Ch. 21
Imprisoned at Jewish feast	12:4-7	21:16-28
Delivered from prison	12:6-11	16:24-26
Conclusion: Success of the Word of God	12:24	28:30-31

# Comparison of the Apostles and Jesus

(Chart 2) Portrayal of the Apostles

The portrayal of the apostles in Acts is very similar to the portrayal of Jesus in Luke's Gospel.

<b>The Apostles in Acts</b>	<b>Jesus in Luke's Gospel</b>
The Holy Ghost descends on the apostles at Pentecost (2:1-4)	The Holy Ghost descends at His baptism (3:21-22)
Peter preaches, quoting from the prophet Joel (2:16-36)	Jesus preaches after reading from the prophet Isaiah (4:14-30)
The apostles call people to join them (2:37-41,47b)	Jesus calls His first followers (5:1-11, 27-32)
Peter and John heal a lame beggar (3:1-10)	Jesus heals a blind beggar (18:35-43)
The High priest arrests some of the apostles and questions them before the council (4:1-22)	Jesus is arrested and interrogated by the council (22:47-71)
The "narrator" summarizes the "signs and wonders" of the apostles, especially the healings and deliverances (5:12-16; 8:6-7,13)	The "narrator" summarizes the healing and delivering activity of Jesus (4:40-41; 6:17-19)
The sick are healed through Peter's shadow and Paul's handkerchiefs or aprons (19:11-12)	A woman is healed when she touches the fringes of Jesus' clothing (8:43-48)
Jewish leaders want to kill the apostles, because of their teachings (5:17-42)	Jewish leaders plot to kill Jesus, partly due to His teachings (19:45-48)
Peter raises Tabitha (Dorcas) from the dead (9:36-42)	Jesus raises a widow's son from the dead (7:11-17)
The apostles encounter a pious Roman centurion (10:1-48)	Jesus heals the son of a faithful Roman centurion (7:1-10)
Paul felt compelled by the Spirit to go to Jerusalem, despite the dangers that await him there (19:21; 21:8-17)	Jesus is determined to go to Jerusalem, despite the dangers that await Him there (9:51; 13:33; 19:11-28)
Paul is welcomed in Jerusalem by the believers and soon goes to the temple (21:17-26)	Jesus is welcomed in Jerusalem by large crowds and soon goes to the temple (19:28-48)
Paul is seized by a Jewish mob that wants him killed, but later stands trial before Roman governors (21:30-36; 23:23-26:32)	Jesus is arrested by a Jewish mob, but is later turned over to the Roman procurator for trial (22:47-54; 23:1-25)
Paul argues against the Sadducees, who do not believe in the resurrection (23:6-9)	Jesus is questioned by some Sadducees who dispute the concept of resurrection (20:29-38)
Paul takes bread, gives thanks, and breaks it, and eats (27:35; 20:7-11)	Jesus takes bread, says a blessing, breaks it, and gives it to the disciples to eat (27:35; 24:30)
As he is being stoned to death, Stephen hands his spirit over to the Lord Jesus and forgives his executioners (7:59-60)	As he is dying on the cross, Jesus forgives His executioners and hands His spirit over to God (23:34,46)

# Places Where Paul did Things in Acts

<b>Places where the Lord appeared to Paul</b>	Troas, Near Corinth, Jerusalem, in the ship at sea before the island of Malta
<b>Places where new churches were established</b>	Jerusalem, Antioch, Derbe, Ephesus, Tyre, Ptolemais, Ceaserea, Sidon, Puteoli, Rome
<b>Places where Paul met Jewish opposition</b>	Damascus, Iconium, Lystra, Thessalonica, Berea, Corinth, Jerusalem, Ceaserea
<b>Places where Paul worked among Gentiles</b>	Philippi, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus
<b>Places where people were won to Christ</b>	Iconium, Lystra, Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Corinth, Malta, Rome

# Notable Sermons in Acts

Chart 4

I Peter 4:11 If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

	Description	Reference (Acts)
1	Peter's sermon on Judas and his successor	1:16-22
2	Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost	2:14-36
3	Peter's sermon in Solomon's Colonnade	3:12-26
4	Peter's sermon before the Council	4:8-12
5	Gamaliel's sermon before the Council	5:35-39
6	Stephen's sermon before the Council	7:2-53
7	Peter's sermon in Cornelius' house	10:34-43
8	Peter's defense to the church in Jerusalem	11:14-17
9	Paul's sermon in the synagogue at Antioch of Pisidia	13:16-41
10	Paul and Barnabas' appeal in Lystra	14:15-17
11	Peters sermon at the Jerusalem council	15:7-11
12	James sermon at the Jerusalem council	15:13-21
13	Pauls sermon in Athens	17:22-31
14	Demetrius' sermon in the Ephesian theater	19:25-27
15	Paul's farewell message to Ephesian elders	20:18-35
16	Paul's defense before the mob	22:1-21
17	Paul's defense before the Council	23:1-6
18	Paul's defense before Felix	24:10-21
19	Paul's defense before Festus	25:8,10,11
20	Paul's defense before Agrippa	26:1-23
21	Paul's sermon to his shipmates	27:21-26
22	Paul's testimony to the Jews in Rome	28:17-20,25-28

# Rulers During the Times of Acts

Chart 5

<b>THE BOOK OF ACTS</b>											
<i>Chapter</i>	1	8	13 28								
Jerusalem	Judea & Samaria	Uttermost Parts of Earth									
<b>ROMAN EMPERORS</b>											
Tiberius	Caligula	Claudius	Nero								
<b>JUDEAN PROCURATORS</b>											
Pontius Pilate	Marcellus	Marullus	King Agrippa I	Fadus	Alexander	Cumanus	Felix	Festus	Albinus	Florus	
<b>HIGH PRIESTS</b>											
Caiphas	Jonathan	Theophilus	Simon	Matthias	Elion	Joseph	Ananias	Ishmael	Joseph	Annanus	Jesus

# Timeline of Pauline Epistles

Chart 6

GROUP	SETTING	EPISTLE	DATE (A.D.)	THEME	GENERAL PURPOSE	CHURCH/INDIVIDUAL
1 Travel	Between 1st and 2nd Journeys	Galatians	48	Salvation at Present and in the Future	Evangelizing	Church
1	2nd Journey	1 & 2 Thessalonians	52	Salvation at Present and in the Future	Evangelizing	Church
1	3rd Journey	1 & 2 Corinthians	55	Salvation at Present and in the Future	Evangelizing	Church
1	3rd Journey	Romans	56	Salvation at Present and in the Future	Evangelizing	Church
2 Prison	1st Roman Imprisonment	Colossians	61	Christ and the Christian Life	Edifying	Church
2	1st Roman Imprisonment	Ephesians	61	Christ and the Christian Life	Edifying	Church
2	1st Roman Imprisonment	Philemon	61	Christ and the Christian Life	Edifying	Church
2	1st Roman Imprisonment	Philippians	61	Christ and the Christian Life	Edifying	Church
3 Pastoral	Released	1 Timothy	62	Church and its Workers	Establishing	Individuals
3	Released	Titus	62	Church and its Workers	Establishing	Individuals
3	2nd Roman Imprisonment	2 Timothy	67	Personal Farewells	Establishing	Individuals

# Approximate Timeline of Paul's Life

(Chart 7) Approximate Timeline of Paul's Life (Noting Timothy & Titus)

<i>Events</i>	<i>Scripture</i>	<i>Date</i>
1. Birth		Around the time of Christ's birth
2. Conversion	Acts 9:1-19a	A.D. 33
3. 1st Missionary Journey <b>TIMOTHY CONVERTED AT DERBE</b> <b>Probably in his late teens.</b> Galatians written possibly at the end of the mission, from Antioch.	Acts 13:1-14:28	A.D. 47-48
4. At the Jerusalem Council <b>TITUS ACCOMPIES PAUL</b>	Acts 15:1-35; Gal. 2:1	A.D. 49
5. 2nd Missionary Journey <b>TIMOTHY JOINS PAUL</b> Included the first mission to Thessalonica. 1 & 2 Thessalonians written from Corinth	Acts 15:36-18:22	A.D. 49-52
6. 3rd Missionary Journey <b>ABOUT 3 YEARS IN EPHESUS, WITH TIMOTHY</b> Included at least two visits to Macedonia (Acts 20:1-3; 2 Cor. 2:12-13) <b>TITUS MINISTERS IN CORINTH</b> 1 & 2 Corinthians and Romans written	Acts 18:23-21:17 2 Cor. 7:6, 13, 14; 8:6,16,23	A.D. 52-56
7. Arrest at Jerusalem	Acts 21:18-23:30	A.D. 56
8. Appearances before governors Felix and Festus	Acts 23:31-25:12	A.D. 56-58
9. Appearance before King Agrippa	Acts 25:13-26:32	A.D. 58
10. Journey to Rome and imprisonment. Written from prison: Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon, Philippians	Acts 27:1-28:31	A.D. 58-61
11. Release from prison	Phil. 22; Phil. 1:25	A.D. 62
12. Travels after release; Eventually reaches Asia Minor <b>LEAVES TIMOTHY AT EPHESUS (I Tim. 1:3)</b> Goes to Macedonia <b>WRITES TO TIMOTHY</b> Possibly returns to Ephesus; Goes to Crete <b>LEAVES TITUS AT CRETE (Titus 1:5)</b> Goes to Corinth <b>WRITES TO TITUS</b> Other Journeys		A.D. 62-66
13. Burning of Rome; persecution by Nero		A.D. 64
14. Second Arrest (At Troas?)		A.D. 66 or 67
15. Second Imprisonment at Rome <b>Writes 2nd Letter to Timothy</b>		A.D. 67
16. Paul's death, executed by Nero		A.D. 67

Possible prison of Paul. The Right, below church.

[possible prison of paul to right below church.png](#)

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# Introduction Study Questions

##### INTRODUCTION STUDY QUESTIONS (General information concerning the book of Acts.) #####

1. Who is the writer of ACTS and where is it probably written from?

Luke the Physician probably wrote Acts from Rome or Caesarea.

2. When was the book of Acts probably written?

Written between 61-64 A.D.

2. What is the THEME of the book of Acts?

The Acts of the Holy Ghost in the lives of the Apostles.

3. What is the key verse of Acts? Write it from Memory below.

Acts 1:8-But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

4. How is the ministry of the Holy Ghost presented in the book of Acts different from how it is presented in the Old Testament? (hint: *external*)

The change in the ministry of the Holy Ghost, whose primary function in the Old Testament was the external "anointing" but now to be within them.

5. Are you "FILLED" with the Holy Ghost at New Birth?

No. The infilling comes after you have received the gift of Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord, and then receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

6. Where can Peter's vision of the 'sheet' be found? (Give chapter and verses.)

Acts 10:9-15

7. In Peter's vision of the 'sheet', what did the clean and unclean animals symbolize what were they both declared by God through the sacrificial death of Christ?

The "clean" animals symbolizing the Jews and the "unclean" animals symbolizing the Gentiles were both declared "cleansed" by God through the sacrificial death of Christ.

8. What will happen if we try in our own power to perform the acts spoke of in the book of Acts?

If we try to accomplish these things in our own power, we will fail

10. Complete the following statement: *The four gospels showed us how the foundation of that house was laid; The book of Acts shows us... how the superstructure began to be raised,*

11. What does the Holy Ghost make preaching?

The Holy Ghost makes the preaching of the Word mighty to the pulling down of Satan's strong holds

12. In light of Acts 1:2-9, Whose ministry is the central theme of ACTS?

The book of Acts reveals the continuing ministry of Jesus Christ

13. What commanded is directed to all chosen Believers? (1:4; 9:17)

All chosen Believers are commanded to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

14-17. List four essentials to success in soul-winning:

14. Unity In the Body

15. Faithfulness In the Body

16. Fullness In the Body

17. Following the Voice of the Lord

18. Complete the following: All God's servants should be: \_\_\_\_\_ together & \_\_\_\_\_ together. (Ephesians 4:3) (serving, working)

19. Acts 14:22, tells us what is in store for the Believer desiring to enter the kingdom of God. What is it?

we must through **much tribulation** enter into the kingdom of God.

20. What chapters are included in the "Home Missions" section of Acts and what chapters are included in the "Foreign Missions" section of Acts?

1. Home Missions (featuring Peter) Ch. 1-12

2. Foreign Missions (featuring Paul) Ch. 13-28

## QUIZ 1: INTRODUCTION

(General information concerning the book of Acts.)

1. Who is the *writer* of ACTS and where is it probably written from?

Luke the Physician probably wrote Acts from Rome or Caesarea.

2. What is the THEME of the book of Acts?

## The Acts of the Holy Ghost in the lives of the Apostles.

3. What is the key verse of Acts? Write it from Memory below.

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BONUS: What chapters are included in the "Home Missions" section of Acts and what chapters are included in the "Foreign Missions" section of Acts?

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Stephen G. Reynolds, Jr. Acts October 21, 2004 "Memory Verses & 1 Chapter Summaries"

1. I memorized and quoted verbatim Acts 1:8 to Rev. Stephen Reynolds, Sr.
2. I memorized and quoted verbatim I John 4:4 to Rev. Stephen Reynolds, Sr.

3. Read Acts chapters 1 and 2 and give a summary of each. ACTS 1 V. 1 The author (Luke the physician) addresses a man named "Theophilus". treatise – Greek- 3056 (Strong's)—logos – "something said; word"

V.2 Jesus through the Holy Ghost gave commandments unto the apostles. Combining this principle with the one in John 16:13-16, all 3 Persons of the Godhead are clearly seen working in unity. The Holy Ghost is not the Post-Pentecost manifestation of Jesus, but is the Third Person of the Eternal Godhead. All Three Persons are equally existent with None preceding or following another. Verse two of chapter one is obviously physically and chronologically before verse one of chapter two.

Vv. 3-5 The command to remain in Jerusalem unto the Holy Ghost came is recorded.

Vv. 6-8 The effect and purpose of the giving of the Holy Ghost.

Vv. 9-11 Christ taken up into a cloud is recorded.

Vv. 12-26 120 disciples wait in the upper room for the "Promise of the Father." Peter declares that the prophet of God foretold Judas' treason and he moves that a replacement be chosen. Mathias is chosen.

ACTS 2 Vv. 1-4 The Holy Ghost filled all in the upper room.

Vv. 5-13 The infilling of the Holy Ghost was initially evidenced by the speaking in other tongues. Many were amazed and marveled; some mocked.

Vv. 14-36 Peter Preaches -- "God Hath Made Jesus both Lord and Christ" Christ—Greek—5547 (Strong's)—"anointed" Messiah—Hebrew—4899 (Strong's)—"anointed" Peter declares Jesus of Nazareth to be the Messiah. Peter declares that God approved Jesus by signs, wonders, resurrection, and by the fulfillment of Messianic prophecy (i.e. Christ's place in the family line of the patriarch David). Peter even clarifies that the prophecies of David spoke not of himself, but of the Messiah, the Christ—Jesus of Nazareth. All occurred and was done by Divine order. Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Father.

Vv. 37-47 Results of the Day of Pentecost: • 3,000 saved in one day • Signs and wonders performed through the apostles • Gladness in the Believers • Unity amongst the Believers • Glory given to God • Souls were added to the church DAILY