



ACTS: The Gospel Unleashed

Introduction Notes: Week One

Why is this book important to study?

1. It will increase your faith in the power of God
2. It will inspire you to grow in your discipleship
3. It will give you insights into how God works to build his church

Four Part Outline

Part One: The Early Church in Jerusalem. Acts 1:1 - 8:3

Part Two: The Expansion of the Gospel to Judea and Samaria. Acts 8:4 - 12:25

Part Three: The Missionary Journeys of Paul. Acts 13:1 — 21:17

Part Four: Paul's Arrest and Imprisonment. Acts 21:18 - 28:31

What's in a name? "Acts of the Apostles?" A better title would be... "The ongoing acts of Jesus through the Spirit (who primarily worked through the Apostles) to spread the gospel and build Jesus' church."

Who wrote Acts? Acts is the gospel of Luke part 2

The Author: Luke the physician. Traveling missionary coworker of Paul.

Luke 1:1-4

Who was Theophilus?

1. An important patron who funded Luke's research?
2. A generic name that means lover or friend of God?

Colossians 4:14

Our dear friend Luke, the doctor, and Demas send greetings.

Philemon 24

And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers

2 Timothy 4:11

Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry

The "we" and "us" passages in Acts suggest the author was a coworker of Paul.

Acts 16:10-17

Acts 20:5-15

Acts 21:1-18

Acts 27:1-28:16

Acts 27:21-28

Acts 28:1-16

What kind of literature is Acts?

- A gospel is a historical biography proclamation.
- Acts is a historical theological narrative about the beginning of the church.

Geographical location

The Mediterranean area Jerusalem to Rome

Political Setting

The Roman Empire ruled during this time

Time setting: The First Century

Jesus 1-4 AD — 30-33 AD

Augustus — 27 BC — 14 AD

Tiberius — 14 AD — 37 AD

Caligula 37 AD — 41 AD

Claudius 41 AD — 54 AD

Nero 54 AD — 68 AD

Temple Destroyed during the Roman vs Jewish Wars in 70 AD

The Mega Themes in Acts

The Holy Spirit

Outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Promised Presence as the church grows
Signs and wonders confirm apostolic witness

The Apostles and key leaders

- Apostolic uniqueness
- Authority
- Teachings
- Peter
- Paul

The Spread of the gospel

- Jerusalem
- Judea
- Samaria
- Gentiles
- Missionary Journeys

Other Key Themes

- Prayer
- Overcoming opposition
- Conversion and water baptism
- Peter's ministry
- Paul's ministry

Luke 24:44-53 [Hyperlink to Acts](#)

Wait. Don't start the mission until you receive the power from heaven. The power of God's presence is the personal application for us.
Power of His Presence.

Application:

Read and reread the Book of Acts

Take notes

Devote yourself to prayer

Tap into the power of God's presence.