

ACTS

OF THE APOSTLES

HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

The events described in Acts take place in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the surrounding occupied lands of the Greco-Roman empire as well as Asia Minor during the 1st century between 30-60 CE. Acts likely composed between 60 and 90 C.E.

LITERARY CONTEXT:

written in a “narrative” style. Much like a travel journal.

STRUCTURE:

Decided into five parts.

1. Jesus’ Commission
2. The arrival of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.
3. Life within the Jesus movement
4. The Mission of the Church
5. Paul’s arrest

OVERARCHING THEME:

The Holy Spirit, the Great Commission, and the Church

UNIQUE FACTS ABOUT ACTS:

1. Famous name: “Acts of the Apostles” Perhaps misnamed from antiquity- only covers 2 of the apostle's works. Peter & Paul. Could be named “Acts of the Spirit” or “Acts of Jesus”
2. Completes the NT Pentateuch (4 gospels)
3. A bridge between the life of the Messiah and the epistles
4. Our only record of how the Church was birthed from Gentiles
5. Author - Luke. Written as a single work along with “Luke”
6. Comprises 25% of the NT and only one written by a gentile

7. Luke: travel companion & doctor for Paul (close friend). He died at age 84 and was unmarried.

STUDY SECTIONS:

Session	Lesson #		Theme
1	1	Ch 1	Jesus' Commission
2	2A	Ch 2:1-13	Arrival of the Holy Spirit and birth of the Church.
3	2B	Ch 2:12-41	
4	3	Ch 2:42-3:26	
5	4	Ch 4:1-20	
6	5A	Ch 4:21-5:6	
7	5B	Ch 5:7-40	
8	6	Ch 6	
9	7	Ch 7	
10	8A	Ch 8:1-17	
11	8B	8:14-40	
12	9A	Ch 9:1-22	
13	9B	Ch 9:23-10:6	
14	10	Ch 10	
15	11	Ch 11	
16	12	Ch 12	
17	13	Ch 13:1-47	The Mission of the Church
18	14	Ch 13:48-14:23	
19	15A	Ch 14:19-15:11	
20	15B	Ch 15:7-41	
21	16A	Ch 16:1-18	
22	16B	Ch 16:16-40	
23	17A	Ch 17:1-20	
24	17B	Ch 17:19-34	

Session	Lesson #		Theme
25	18A	Ch 18:1-17	
26	18B	Ch 18:18-19:7	
27	19A	Ch 19:8-22	
28	19B	Ch 19:22-41	
29	20	Ch 20	
30	21	Ch 21	Paul's Arrest
31	22 & 23	Ch 22 & 23	
32	24	Ch 24	
33	25 & 26	Ch 25 & 26	
34	27 & 28	Ch 27 & 28	