

A Survey of the New Testament

Lesson 7: Acts

“The Church Expands”

March 20, 2019

Summary: Luke continues his defense of Paul’s ministry by recording the church’s early years of expansion around the known world.

Author: Luke the _____

- He references his previous writing to _____ (Act 1:1-2).
- Both Luke and Acts contain detailed medical references.
- Both books exhibit the same educated writing style.
- Church tradition names him as the author.
- The book’s author joined Paul’s missionary endeavors when they went to _____ (16:6, 10).
- He worked with Paul’s missionary works at least until he arrived in Rome.
- Luke worked with Paul even after all of his other coworkers had left (2 Tim. 4:11).

Source:

- The other apostles gave him the required information for the first half of Acts.
- The second half of Acts was written from an eye-witness’s perspective.

Date: _____ years after Paul arrived in Rome.

- Before the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70.
- After the book of Luke which we assigned at AD 60.
- If Luke was written shortly after Paul arrived in Rome, Acts came about two years later: _____ (Acts 28:30).

Important People:

- Stephen: The first _____
- _____: The focus of the first half of the book.
- Saul/Paul: The focus of the second half of the book.
- Luke: The author of the book and eye-witness to many of its events.

Purpose:

- Luke was written to give Theophilus a complete and accurate account of Jesus’ life.
- Acts was written to continue educating Theophilus about the church’s _____ around the Roman Empire.

Key Theme: _____ (Acts 1:8)

- Jerusalem
- Judaea
- Samaria
- Uttermost part of the world

Book Content Overview:

- Introduction (1)
 - Luke’s purpose for writing
 - Great Commission
 - Jesus’ ascension
 - A new _____
- Jerusalem (2-7)
 - Pentecost (2)
 - A healing brings persecution (3-4:33).
 - Two die for _____ (4:34-5:13).
 - Persecution intensifies (5:14-42).
 - Office of _____ created (6:1-5)
 - Stephen’s ministry and martyrdom (6:6-7:60)
- Judaea and Samaria (8-12)
 - Christians scattered (8:1-4)
 - Samaritan revival (8:5-25)
 - The Ethiopian Eunuch (8:26-40)
 - Saul’s conversion (9:1-25)
 - _____ raised (9:26-43)
 - Gentiles in Israel believe (10)
 - Debate over Gentile converts (11:1-18)
 - Expanded ministry to _____ (11:19-30)
 - Herod persecutes the church (12).
- Uttermost Part of the World (13-28)
 - The first missionary journey (13-14)
 - The _____ Council (15:1-35)
 - The second missionary journey (15:36-18:22)
 - The third missionary journey (18:23-21:15)
 - Paul’s trials (21:16-26:32)
 - Journey to Rome (27-28)

Application: “Ye shall be witnesses.”