

Acts

66 Books in 52 Weeks

(A Book-by-Book Overview of the Bible)

Summary & Structure

ACTS

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

5

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

28

TYPE

HISTORY



OVERVIEW

Acts covers the works of the Apostles in the early days after Christ's death and was written by Luke. It covers the span of time between Christ's ministry and the ministry of the Apostles, containing a record of the miracles they performed. The book is divided into two sections, the first part following Peter and the mandate to preach to the Gentiles. The second part follows Paul and his missionary journeys far and wide. The book ends before either man is martyred (killed for the faith).



WRITTEN
62 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
26-62 AD



AUTHOR
Luke the Historian,
Physician, and Gentile

Key Verse

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8

Background

Why Luke wrote the book of Acts:

- To Preserve an Accurate Record of the Early Church
- To Show the Power of the Holy Spirit
- To Display Christ's Universal Plan of Salvation
- To Transition into a New Covenant
- To Proclaim and Defend the Gospel

Survey of Acts

We can survey this book in several ways:

Geographically

- Jerusalem (Acts 1-7) – God *establishes* the church.
- Judea & Samaria (Acts 8-12) – God *enlarges* the church.
- Far Reaches of the Earth (Acts 13-28) – God *expands* the church.

Biographically

The two most prominent figures in Acts are Peter (chapters 1-12) and Paul (chapters 13-28)

Peter	Paul
Central Location: Jerusalem	Central Location: Antioch
Emphasis on Jews	Emphasis on Gentiles
Movement from Jerusalem to Samaria	Movement from Samaria to Rome
Five great persecutions	Four great journeys
Period of refinement	Period of fulfillment

Chronologically

From the Ascension to Pentecost (Chapter 1)

From Pentecost to the Death of Stephen (Chapters 2-7)

The First Day of the Church (Acts 2)

Holy Spirit overtakes the apostles - Jews

The first full gospel message is preached

The first command for Christian baptism (Acts 2:36-41)

Peter Heals a Paralyzed Man (Acts 3)

Peter and John are Imprisoned (Acts 4)

The Apostles are Beaten and Forbidden to Speak (Acts 5)

Stephen is Stoned to Death – the First Christian Martyr (Acts 6-7)

From Stephen's Death to Saul's Conversion (Chapters 8-9)

Church Expanded to the Gentile World (Chapters 10-12)

Cornelius' Vision of an Angel

Peter's Vision of the Animals (Acts 10:9-17)

Holy Spirit Overtakes the Gentiles (Acts 10:23-27; Acts 10:34-36; Acts 10:44-48)

Peter Explains What Happened to the Leaders in Jerusalem (Chapter 11)

The Church Spreads as far as Antioch.

Believers in Jesus called Christians (Acts 11:23)

From the Missionary Journeys to Paul's Imprisonment in Rome (Chapters 12-28)

The First Journey (Acts 13:1-14:28) *map 1

The Council at Jerusalem (Acts 15:1-35)

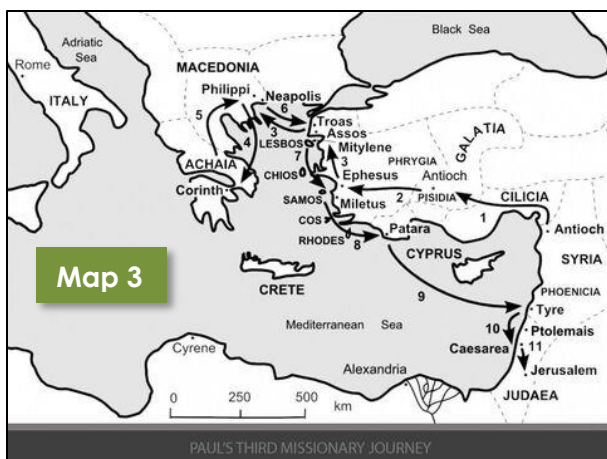
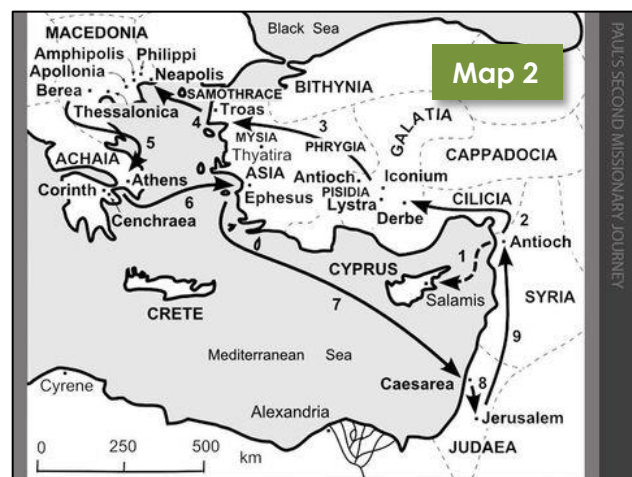
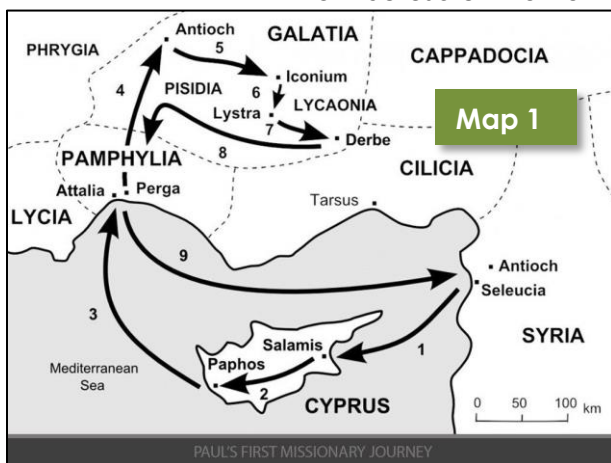
The Second Journey (Acts 15:36-18:22) *map 2

Paul wrote 1 & 2 Thessalonians during this journey.

The Third Journey (Acts 18:23-21:26) *map 3

Paul wrote 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, and Romans during this journey.

From Jerusalem to Rome (Acts 21:27-28:31) *map 4



Lessons/Applications

Christians have a message for _____.

Christians access a _____ from on high.

The Gospel is designed to _____ and _____.