

Overview of ACTS

Introductory Perspective:

An adventure of preaching through the New Testament book of ACTS!

~ Expository Preaching!

~ Mark your Bible UP!

Not simply a **Historical Document**, but a **Living Narrative!**

Sir William Ramsey – Noble Prize winning British Chemist

Acts is the testimony of Christ alive within His people...in the past...and still today!

Form & Fashion has changed vs. Substance & Nature remains!

2 Timothy 3:5 NASB

“holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power...”

Facts about Acts:

WHO? Dr. Luke

Acts 1:1-2 NASB

The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, 2 until the day when He was taken up, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.

Luke 1:1-4 NASB

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, 2 just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word have handed them down to us, 3 it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; 4 so that you might know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.

Colossians 4:14 NASB

Luke, the beloved physician, sends you his greetings, and also Demas.

Luke referencing himself...

Acts 16:9-10 NASB

9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a certain man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 And when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Theophilus – “Friend of God or Lover of God”

If you are a friend of God...this book is for you!

WHY?

“To provide an inspired account & commentary on the earliest history of the Church.”

WHAT & WHERE? (Approx: 30 Years of History!)

Acts 1 – 7 The Church Established.

A.D. 30 – 33 Focus is Jerusalem.

Acts 8 – 12 The Church Enlarged.

A.D. 33 – 37 Focus is Judea & Samaria.

Acts 13 – 28 The Church Expanded

A.D. 37 – 60 Focus is the World.

Leadership Focus:

Chapters 1 – 12 Apostle Peter

Chapter 13 – 28 Apostle Paul

Key Verse:

Acts 1:8 NASB

“...but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

Great Moments with the Early Church:

- ~ Final comments of Jesus (Acts 1:1-11)
- ~ Advent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-21)
- ~ Birth of the Church (Acts 2:37-47)
- ~ First Christian Martyr (Acts 7 – Stephen)
- ~ Conversion of Paul (Acts 9:1-18)
- ~ The Gospel to the Nations (Acts 10:34-35)
- ~ Church Council in Jerusalem (Acts 15)
- ~ Sermon to Greek Philosophers (Acts 17:16-31)
- ~ Instructions for Elders (Acts 20:17-38)
- ~ The Kingdom of God in Rome (Acts 28:16-31)

Personal Challenges for Us:

~ Go & Witness!

People on the move – who are quick to share the Gospel.

So what is your story – what is your message?

Toughen your skin & increase your courage.

~ Spirit-Filled – Spirit-Empowered Living!

Deepen your dependency & expectation of Jesus' Spirit

Believe for greater signs & wonders & miracles.

~ Renewed Vision for God's Church.

Give yourself to fellowship & ministry.

Be a Disciple & make Disciples.