



Investigating the Word of God

Acts



Artist's Depiction of the Apostle Paul Preaching at the Areopagus in Athens

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An Introduction to Acts

The Author

There are no serious doubts as to the authorship of the book of Acts of the Apostles. Luke is assigned as its author. As early as the last part of the 2nd century, Irenaeus cites passages so frequently from the Acts of the Apostles that it is certain that he had constant access to the book. He gives emphasis to the internal evidence of its authorship. Tertullian also ascribes the book to Luke, as does Clement of Alexandria. That Luke is the author of the book of Acts is evident from the following.

- The Preface of the Book. The writer addresses Theophilus (Luke 1:3), who is the same individual to whom the gospel of Luke was also directed, and makes reference to a “former treatise” which dealt with “all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was received up” (1:1-2). This is very evidently a reference to the third gospel.
- The book of Acts and the gospel of Luke are identical in style, as a number of scholars have pointed out and demonstrated.
- The book of Acts comes as an historical sequel to the gospel of Luke, taking up with the very events, and at the point where the gospel of Luke concludes, namely the resurrection, the appearances following the resurrection, and the commissioning of the Apostles to the task for which they had been selected and trained by the Lord, and the ascension of Jesus.
- Several portions of the book of Acts are written in the first person plural, called the “we” sections of the book, signifying that the writer was an eye-witness of what he wrote and the companion of Paul (16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1; 28:16).
- Both the gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles frequently use medical terminology, which seems sufficient to indicate the profession of Luke, “the beloved physician” (Col. 4:14).

Date of Writing

The time of the writing of the Book of Acts seems to coincide reasonably with the close of its historical account. Paul is in prison, still alive in Rome. Evidently, the history recorded in Acts would not have so abruptly ended, if Paul’s death had taken place and it is unlikely that such an event as the destruction of Jerusalem would not have even been mentioned in such an historical account, if it had already occurred. We, therefore, place the date of writing of Acts of the Apostles as prior to 70 A.D. and after Paul reached Rome, probably 63 A.D., or thereabout.

To Whom the Book Was Written

Although the record of Acts is addressed personally to Theophilus, as was the gospel of Luke, it was intended surely for a much wider reading. The origin of Christianity among the Jews, as a prepared people, is prominently noticed in the facts of the beginning (Acts 2). It is also emphasized that the unfailing practice was to preach the gospel first always to the Jews.

However, much of the book is concerned with the history of the transfer of the center of interest in the spread of Christianity from Jerusalem to Antioch, and from the Jewish phase of gospel preaching to the concentrated effort to spread the gospel to the whole Gentile world. This is portrayed as the Lord's own plan (Acts 1:8, "you shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the uttermost part of the earth"). Luke does not turn away from his purpose in the gospel written by him, namely to present the origin and history of Christianity from the viewpoint of one outside of Judaism.

The book of Acts, therefore, is an historical account adapted to meet the need of the Gentiles as well as the Jews. This reflects Luke's association with Paul and becomes the basis of what is often thought to be Pauline influence on the record.

The Purpose of the Book

The common purpose of both the Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles is expressed in Luke 1:4—"that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed." Additionally, there are a number of specific aims.

1. **An *Historical Motive*.** A comparison of Luke 1:1-4 and Acts 1:5, shows a continuation in the historical motive. The subject of the gospel of Luke is "the things that Jesus began to do and teach." The book of Acts gives the history of the continuation of the work that Jesus had begun as the Holy Spirit carried on His Purpose and that work in the lives of the Apostles. This continuation was outlined in the purpose expressed by the Lord in Acts 1:8, just before His ascension.

2. **The *Defense Motive*.** In addressing himself to the Roman world, Luke constantly calls attention to the fact that the gospel enjoyed an interested hearing at the hands of government officials. In every contact with government officials recorded in Acts, Christianity either received a favorable hearing or was ignored, but never opposed. Luke, no doubt, gave emphasis to these favorable attitudes upon the part of the officials for the purpose of contrast in the face of increasing hostility toward Christianity.

3. **The *Biographical Motive*.** While Luke's record is primarily devoted to the revelation of the gospel and its being preached throughout the world, the beginning, growth and spread of the church of the Lord as a consequence, and to the work of the Holy Spirit in the revelation of Divine truth and its confirmation; yet, in a very pronounced way, he divides the historical record of Acts into two different sections biographical in nature by recording in the first section (1 through 12) the history of Peter's work, and in 13 through 28 a record of the work of the Apostle to the Gentiles, Paul.

Luke's story is a vivid picture of the use and employment of humanity in the persons of Peter and Paul, Stephen, Philip, Barnabas, Timothy and Titus, in the fulfillment of the purposes which had brought Jesus Christ into the world and of God's purpose from eternity in the accomplishment of human redemption through the preaching of the gospel.

Contents and Character of the Book of Acts

There are five lines of historical reference distinct and continuing that can be definitely traced throughout the Book of Acts. Just as the gospels give us the history of the coming of the Messiah and His life upon the earth, so the book of Acts of the Apostles records for us the history of the beginning, growth and spread of Christianity for at least the first 30 years, from the ascension of Jesus to the imprisonment of Paul.

It has been suggested that the book of Acts furnishes the historical setting for the most of the New Testament epistles, especially those of Paul, and that these epistles can be placed like jewels in the setting of its history. As an analysis of the book and its historical data, we suggest five lines of historical reference:

1. **The Apostolic Office and Work.** The book derives its name from the work of the Apostles of our Lord and from this record of their work we are able to learn of the Apostolic office in operation and the work that Jesus selected and trained the Apostles to do, as well as the place they fill in the church through the work which they did.

- They were witnesses for Christ (1:8; 1:21-22).
- They were ambassadors of the Lord (2 Cor. 5:20; Acts 4:18-20; 5:28-32). They were authorized to speak for Him and to make known His Divine decrees unto all the Nations of the earth. This testimony which they bore is binding both in Heaven and on earth upon all men forever (Matt. 18:18).
- They sat upon thrones with authority to rule over the church of our Lord (Matt. 19:28; Acts 2:42; Gal. 2:1-9; 1 John 4:6).
- They were “earthen vessels” expendable in the purpose of Christ to reveal the will of God (2 Cor. 4:7).

2. **The “Work of the Holy Spirit” in the Scheme of Redemption.**

- The Spirit began His mission which was promised by Christ (John 14:16-17,25-26; 16:7-15; Acts 1:8) on the day of Pentecost (2:33; 2:15-21; 2:1-4).
- The mission of the Holy Spirit as recorded in Acts can be set forth in the following four points:
 - 1) The revelation of the gospel (2:4; I Cor. 2:10-13; Eph. 3:3-5).
 - 2) The confirmation of the word revealed by the miracles and signs which followed (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 6:6-8; 8:6-13; 19:6; Heb. 2:1-4).
 - 3) The conviction and conversion of sinners (John 16:8-11). This was accomplished through the power and influence of Divine truth as the Spirit enabled the Apostles to preach it.
 - 4) Guide, direct, and edify early Christians through gifts bestowed of an extraordinary nature and through the revelation of the will of God concerning their lives and the accomplishment of His purposes (5:32; 4:31; 9:31; Rom. 8:14).

3. **The Story of the Preaching of the Gospel.** In this record, the message preached can be identified; and in addition to what they preached, we can learn much of how they preached under different circumstances.

4. **Conversion.** Several conversions are related which do not bear testimony concerning human experiences but which passed under the observance of the Holy Spirit twice: 1) When they occurred the preacher was guided by the Holy Spirit; 2) when they were recorded the Holy Spirit recorded them. All of these records of conversions have several things in common.

- The gospel was preached. There is not a single record of anybody being converted by some miraculous experience separate from the power and influence of Divine truth.
- When people were saved by the power of the gospel, it was always because they believed the truth was preached.
- Faith in the gospel which they heard always produced the works of obedience to the will of God which that gospel commanded them to perform.

5. **The Story of the Church.** The book reveals what it was, of whom it consisted, its organization, its mission and work, its worship and its growth and development. From all this history we can learn what the church was in the beginning under Apostolic guidance, as God designed it and as Christ built it, and therefore, what it must be today.

Acts Chapter One

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 35

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Key People

Theophilus
Jesus
Apostles (Eleven are named)
John (the Baptist)
Two men in white apparel
Mary
The brothers of Jesus
David
Judas
Joseph called Barsabas
Matthias

Key Places

Jerusalem
Judea
Samaria
Galilee
Olivet
Akel Dama

Key Words

Infallible
Kingdom
Baptized
Witnesses
Steadfastly
Sabbath day's journey
Supplication
Disciples
Guide
Entrails
Resurrection
Surnamed
Transgression
Lot(s)

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. To whom is this book addressed?
2. How long was Jesus on the earth following His resurrection?
3. Why were the apostles not to leave Jerusalem? (v. 4)
4. With what were the apostles to be baptized? (v. 5)
5. When were the apostles to receive power? (v. 8)
6. What were the apostles to be? Where were they to be that? (v. 8)
7. According to verses 9 through 11, where did Jesus go?
8. What, according to verses 12 through 14, did the apostles do after Jesus' ascension?
9. What happened to Judas?
10. What two things did Peter say were needed by the one who would take Judas' place as an apostle? (vv. 21-22)
11. What two men were proposed to take Judas' place?
12. Which of the two men were chosen? How was he chosen?

Matching

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Theophilus | A. Baptized in water. |
| _____ 2. Jesus | B. Fell headlong into Akel Dama. |
| _____ 3. John (the Baptist) | C. Witnesses for Jesus. |
| _____ 4. Judas | D. Proposed that one be chosen to replace Judas. |
| _____ 5. The apostles | E. Proposed but rejected as an apostle. |
| _____ 6. Peter | F. Had received a former account from the author. |
| _____ 7. Joseph (Barsabas) | G. Chosen by lot to be an apostle. |
| _____ 8. Matthias | H. Showed Himself alive by many infallible proofs. |

Discussion Question

Who do you think the two men dressed in white apparel were?

Acts Chapter Two

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 36

“Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

Key People

Peter

Joel

Jesus

David

Key Places

Jerusalem

Judea

Nazareth

Key Words

Pentecost

Tongues

Utterance

Devout

Prophesy

Visions

Dreams

Attested

Foreknowledge

Lawless

Crucified

Patriarch

Oath

Exalted

Footstool

Perverse

Repent

Baptized

Church

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. According to verse three, what appeared to and sat upon the apostles?
2. What were the apostles able to do? How were they able to do that?
3. From what nations were devout Jews present? (v. 5)
4. Why were those present amazed? (vv. 7-8)
5. To what did some attribute what was happening with the apostles? (v. 13)
6. To what did Peter attribute what was happening to the apostles? (v. 6)
7. By what had Jesus been attested to the people? (v. 22)
8. According to verse 23, who crucified Jesus?
9. Who raised Jesus from the dead? Why? (vv. 29, 32)
10. Who, according to verses 25 through 30, had prophesied that Jesus would be raised from the dead?
11. What, according to verse 36, had God made Jesus?
12. Upon hearing Peter’s sermon, what did those who were present ask? (v. 37)
13. What was Peter’s response to the people’s request? What would that accomplish for them? (v. 38)
14. What did those “who gladly received” Peter’s word do? How many of them were there?
15. According to verse 47, what did the Lord do daily?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | 1. On Pentecost there was a sound from heaven as of a rushing waterfall. |
| T | F | 2. Joel had prophesied that it would come to pass that whoever called upon the name of the Lord would be saved. |
| T | F | 3. Jesus had been delivered up by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God. |
| T | F | 4. Baptism is for the remission of sins. |
| T | F | 5. The disciples immediately fell into disfavor with all the people. |

Discussion Question

How is the “gift of the Holy Spirit” related to the “promise” in verse 39?

Acts Chapter Three

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 19

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”

Key People

Peter

John

A lame man

Jesus Christ

Solomon

Abraham

Isaac

Jacob

Pilate

Moses

Samuel

Key Places

Nazareth

Solomon’s Porch

Key Words

Lame

Alms

Amazement

Ignorance

Foretold

Repent

Restoration

Iniquities

Covenant

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. At what hour were Peter and John going to the Temple? Why were they going there?
2. Who was placed daily at the Temple’s Beautiful Gate?
3. What did Peter do for the man at the Beautiful Gate? What was the man’s response? What was all the people’s response?
4. Where in the Temple did Peter preach the sermon that is found in this chapter?
5. Who, according to verse 15, did Peter say the people had killed?
6. Why, according to verse 17, did they kill this one?
7. What did Peter tell the people to do? What would happen if they would do that? (v. 19)
8. What did Moses say would be raised up? What did he say that a person should do in relation to that one? (v. 22)
9. What, according to verse 25, did God say to Abraham?
10. From what was God seeking to turn the people away? (v. 26)

Matching

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Peter | A. Entered the Temple “walking, leaping, and praising God.” |
| _____ 2. Lame man | B. “In your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed.” |
| _____ 3. Pilate | C. “The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me.” |
| _____ 4. Moses | D. “Silver and gold I do not have.” |
| _____ 5. Abraham | E. Determined to let Jesus go.” |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. The lame man laid at the Temple’s Golden Gate. |
| T | F | 2. All the people were angry to see the lame man in the Temple. |
| T | F | 3. Faith in Jesus made the lame man strong. |
| T | F | 4. The things that the prophets said that the Christ would suffer have all been fulfilled. |
| T | F | 5. All the prophets from Samson had foretold of those days. |

Discussion Question

Why should one hearken unto all things that the Prophet that was like Moses has spoken?

Acts Chapter Four

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 12

“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Key People

Priests
Captain of the Temple
Sadducees
Rulers, elders and scribes
Annas
Caiaphas
John (v. 6)
Alexander
Peter
Jesus
John (v. 13)
David
Herod
Pontius Pilate
Joses - Barnabas

Key Places

Jerusalem
Nazareth
Cyprus

Key Words

Disturbed
Resurrection
Custody
Cornerstone
Rejected
Uneducated
Untrained
Council
Threats
Boldness
Possessors
Proceeds
Distributed

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Who “came upon” Peter and John? Why did they do that? What did they do with them?
2. How many believers were there at that time?
3. What did those assembled ask of Peter and John? (vv. 5-7)
4. Who did Peter say made the lame man whole? (v. 10)
5. In what two ways was Jesus described in verse 11?
6. According to verse 12, in whom is salvation?
7. What was the council’s command to Peter and John? (v. 18)
8. What was Peter and John’s reply to the council’s command? (vv. 19-20)
9. For what did the disciples pray? (v. 29)
10. How were the needy Christians relieved? (vv. 34-35)

Matching

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| _____ 1. Annas | A. Of Cyprus. |
| _____ 2. Peter and John | B. Rulers. |
| _____ 3. Jesus | C. High Priest. |
| _____ 4. Herod and Pontius Pilate | D. Chief cornerstone. |
| _____ 5. Joses | E. Uneducated and untrained. |

True - False

- T F 1. Alexander the high priest was disturbed by the actions of Peter and John.
- T F 2. Salvation is in any number of names.
- T F 3. Jesus was described as the stone the builders rejected.
- T F 4. The man who had been healed was over 40 years old.
- T F 5. The multitude of believers were of one heart.

Discussion Question

How is Jesus Christ “the chief cornerstone?”

Acts Chapter Five

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 29

“But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: ‘We ought to obey God rather than men.’”

Key People

Ananias
Sapphira
Peter
Satan
High Priest
Sadducees
Angel of the Lord
Council, elders, officers
Jesus
Gamaliel
Theudas
Judas of Galilee

Key Places

Solomon’s Porch
Jerusalem
Galilee

Key Words

Conceived
Esteemed
Tormented
Indignation
Securely
Outcome
Census
Overthrow
Worthy
Suffer

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Of what sin were Ananias and Sapphira guilty? What happened to them?
2. Seeing what happened to Ananias and Sapphira, what came upon the church?
3. According to verse 12, what was being done by the apostles?
4. How does verse 14 describe the growth of the church?
5. What did the high priest do to the apostles? (vv. 17-18)
6. Who freed the apostles from prison? What did they do after being released? (vv. 19-20)
7. What did the high priest do when he found out what the apostles were doing? (vv. 21-26)
8. What was Peter’s reply to the high priest and the council when told to quit preaching Jesus? (v. 29)
9. What did the council decide to do to the apostles? Who stopped them? What was his advice?
10. What did the council then determine to do to the apostles?
11. What was the apostles’ attitude upon being released by the council? (v. 41)
12. What, according to verse 42, did the disciples do on a daily basis?

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Ananias | A. Opened the prison doors. |
| _____ 2. Sapphira | B. Rose up with indignation against the apostles. |
| _____ 3. Peter | C. A teacher of the law held in respect by all the people. |
| _____ 4. High priest | D. Lied to the Holy Spirit. |
| _____ 5. Angel of the Lord | E. Rose up in the days of the census. |
| _____ 6. Gamaliel | F. “We ought to obey God rather than men.” |
| _____ 7. Theudas | G. About 400 men joined him. |
| _____ 8. Judas of Galilee | H. Buried by her husband. |

Discussion Question

Why does the law of God always more important than the laws of men?

Acts Chapter Six

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 7

“Then the word of God spread, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.”

Key People

The apostles (The twelve)
Hebrews
Hellenists
Stephen
Philip
Prochorus
Nicanor
Timon
Parmentas
Cyrenians
Alexandrians
Moses
Jesus

Key Places

Jerusalem
Antioch
Cilicia
Asia
Nazareth

Key Words

Distribution
Reputation
Synagogue
Induced
Blasphemous
Steadfastly

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. According to verse one, how was the church growing?
2. What complaint was raised in verse one? Who raised it? Against whom was it raised?
3. What did the twelve say was not desirable for them to do? (v. 2)
4. What solution did the apostles offer to the problem? (v. 3)
5. To what did the apostles give their attention? (v. 4)
6. What qualities were the men who were chosen to complete the appointed task to possess? (v. 5)
7. Name the men who were chosen.
8. What effect did this incident have on the growth of the church? (v. 7)
9. What did Stephen do among the people? (v. 8)
10. What did those who opposed Stephen do in relationship to him? (vv. 11-13)

Matching

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Hellenists | A. Did not leave the word of God to serve tables. |
| _____ 2. Stephen | B. Obedient to the faith. |
| _____ 3. Many of the priests | C. Neglected in the daily distribution. |
| _____ 4. Nicolas | D. Full of faith and power. |
| _____ 5. The apostles | E. A proselyte from Antioch. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. The Hebrew widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. |
| T | F | 2. Seven men were chosen to oversee the daily distribution. |
| T | F | 3. Because of the problems with the daily distribution, the number of disciples decreased. |
| T | F | 4. Stephen spoke blasphemous words against Moses and God. |
| T | F | 5. As he sat before the council, Stephen's face appeared to be as the face of an angel. |

Discussion Question

Do you think the apostles thought that serving tables was beneath them? Why do you think they refused to do it?

Acts Chapter Seven

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 48

“However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands...”

Key People

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| High priest | Moses |
| Stephen | Angel of the Lord |
| Abraham | Aaron |
| Chaldeans | Moloch |
| Isaac | Rephan |
| Jacob | Joshua |
| Joseph | David |
| Pharaoh | Solomon |
| Hamor | Jesus |
| 12 Patriarchs | Saul |

Key Places

Mesopotamia
Haran
Egypt
Canaan
Shechem
Midian
Mount Sinai

Key Words

Inheritance
Descendants
Bondage
Circumcision
Envious
Famine
Treacherously
Expose
Holy
Oppression
Oracles
Pattern
Stiff-necked
Gnashed

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What did God command of Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia? What did Abraham do?
2. What promise did God make to Abraham concerning the land of Canaan? (v. 5)
3. What would happen to Abraham’s descendants? (vv. 6-7)
4. According to verse eight, what covenant did God give Abraham?
5. How did Jacob and his family end up in Egypt? (vv. 9-15)
6. How did the children of Israel become slaves in Egypt? (vv. 17-19) who delivered them from Egypt? (vv. 20-36)
7. What did God give Moses at Mount Sinai? (v. 38) What was the people’s reaction to it? (v. 39)
8. What did the people worship instead of worshipping God? (v. 41)
9. Though David wanted to build a house for God, who built it?
10. What did Stephen say his listeners were? To whom did he liken them? What was their reaction?

Matching

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Saul | A. Made governor over Egypt. |
| _____ 2. Solomon | B. Descendants would dwell in a foreign land. |
| _____ 3. Joseph | C. Built the house of God. |
| _____ 4. Abraham | D. Held the garments of those who stoned Stephen. |
| _____ 5. Aaron | E. Made a golden calf. |

True - False

- | | | | |
|---|---|----|---|
| T | F | 1. | The descendants of Abraham were in bondage for 400 years. |
| T | F | 2. | The matriarchs sold Joseph into slavery. |
| T | F | 3. | Moses lived in the land of Midian for 40 years. |
| T | F | 4. | The Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands. |
| T | F | 5. | Stephen asked God not to charge those who stoned him with the sin of murdering him. |

Discussion Question

What does it mean when it says that Moses made all things “according to the pattern?”

Acts Chapter Eight

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 36-37

“Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, ‘See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?’ Then Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ And the eunuch said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’”

Key People

Saul
Stephen
Philip
Simon
Peter
John
The angel of the Lord
Man of Ethiopia
Candace
Isaiah

Key Places

Jerusalem
Judea
Samaria
City of Samaria
Gaza
Ethiopia
Azotus
Caesarea

Key Words

Consenting
Persecution
Devout
Lamentation
Havoc
Sorcery
Baptized
Perish
Poisoned
Eunuch

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What arose against the church? What did it cause the members of the church to do?
2. What did those who were scattered do wherever they went? (v. 4)
3. What was Saul doing at this time? (v. 3)
4. Where did Philip go? What did he do when he got there? (v. 5) What were the results of his actions? (vv. 6, 8)
5. What had Simon previously practiced? (v. 9) What effect did it have on the people? (vv. 9-11)
6. What did Simon do in response to the preaching of Philip? (v. 13)
7. Why did Peter and John come to Samaria? (v. 14)
8. How did the Samaritan believers receive the Holy Spirit? (v. 17)
9. Of what sin was Simon guilty? (vv. 19-20) What did Peter tell Simon this sin had done to him? (vv. 20-21) What did Simon ask Peter to do for him? (v. 22)
10. According to verse 26, who spoke to Philip? What did he tell him to do?
11. Where had the man from Ethiopia been? Why had he been there? What was he doing while riding in his chariot? (vv. 27-28)
12. What did Philip do when he joined the Ethiopian in his chariot? (v. 35)
13. What request did the Ethiopian make of Philip? (v. 36) What was Philip’s response? (v. 37)
14. What confession did the Ethiopian make? (v. 37)
15. After the Ethiopian had made his confession, what did Philip do to him? (v. 38)

Matching

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|--------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Saul | A. Preached Christ. |
| _____ 2. Philip | B. Made havoc of the church. |
| _____ 3. Simon | C. Laid hands on the Samaritans. |
| _____ 4. Peter | D. Was reading Isaiah the prophet. |
| _____ 5. Ethiopian | E. Sought to buy the gift of God with money. |

Discussion Question

Seeing that Simon was baptized after Philip preached Christ in Samaria and that the man from Ethiopia desired to be baptized after Philip “preached Christ” to him, what conclusions can we reach about “preaching Christ” as it relates to baptism?

Acts Chapter Nine

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 31

“Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.”

Key People

Twelve disciples

Herod the tetrarch

John

Elijah

Peter

Moses

Key Places

Bethsaida

Jerusalem

Key Words

Power

Authority

Tabernacles

Betrayed

Dispute

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. According to verse one, what was Saul continuing to do?
2. Why was Saul going to Damascus?
3. Who appeared to Saul while he was on his way to Damascus? What did he tell Saul to do? (v. 6)
4. Where did Saul go in Damascus? (v. 10)
5. What did the Lord tell Ananias to do? (vv. 10-12) What was Ananias' initial reaction? (vv. 13-14) What was the Lord's response? (vv. 15-16)
6. After Saul received his sight, what did he do? (v. 18)
7. What did Saul do in the synagogue of Damascus? (v. 20) What was the reaction of those who heard him? Why did they have such a reaction? (v. 21)
8. What did the Jews in Damascus plan to do to Saul? (v. 23) How did he escape? (v. 25)
9. What did Saul want to do when he came to Jerusalem? What was the reaction of the disciples? (v. 26)
10. Who brought Saul to the apostles? What did he tell them about Saul?
11. Why was Saul sent to Caesarea and then to Tarsus? (vv. 29-30)
12. What, according to verse 31, was the state of the church?
13. What did Peter do for Ananias at Lydda? What was the reaction of the people to it? (vv. 32-34)
14. What kind of person was Tabitha? (v. 36)
15. What did Peter do for Tabitha at Joppa? (vv. 36-42)

Matching

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Damascus | A. Home of Aeneas. |
| _____ 2. Jerusalem | B. Home of Simon the tanner. |
| _____ 3. Caesarea | C. Saul sought to join the disciples there. |
| _____ 4. Lydda | D. Home of Judas. |
| _____ 5. Joppa | E. Where Saul was taken to escape the Hellenists. |

Discussion Question

What do you think were some of the factors that contributed to the growth of the church as described in verse 31?

Acts Chapter Ten

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 34-35

“Then Peter opened his mouth and said: ‘In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.’”

Key People

Cornelius
Angel of God
Simon Peter
Simon
Two household servants (of Cornelius)
A devout soldier
John (the Baptist)
Jesus

Key Places

Caesarea
Joppa
Judea
Galilee
Nazareth
Jerusalem

Key Words

Centurion
Devout
Alms
Generously
Memorial
Trance
Ordained
Remission

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What kind of man was Cornelius? (v. 2)
2. Who visited Cornelius? What did this visitor tell him to do? (vv. 3-6)
3. While Peter was on the housetop of Simon, what did he see? What was his reaction? What was he then told? How many times did this happen? (vv. 9-16)
4. While Peter was wondering what the vision was about, who came to the gate before Simon’s house? (vv. 17-18) How was Peter told to respond to them? (vv. 19-20)
5. Who accompanied Peter to Caesarea? (v. 23)
6. Who had Cornelius assembled in his house? (v. 24)
7. What did Cornelius do when Peter came in? (v. 25) What was Peter’s response? (v. 26)
8. What did Cornelius say that he and those in his house were ready to hear? (v. 33)
9. What conclusion did Peter reach seeing that Cornelius was a Gentile? (vv. 34-35)
10. According to verse 43, who will receive remission of sins?
11. What happened while Peter was preaching in Cornelius’ house? (v. 44)
12. According to verse 45, upon whom had the gift of the Holy Spirit been poured?
13. What were those who received the gift of the Holy Spirit able to do? (v. 46)
14. Seeing that the Holy Spirit had come upon the Gentiles, what question did Peter ask? (v. 47)
15. What did Peter command Cornelius and those assembled with him to do? (v. 48)

True - False

- T F 1. Cornelius was a member of the Caesarean Regiment.
T F 2. Peter had never eaten anything that was unclean.
T F 3. It was unlawful for a Jew to keep company with one of another nation.
T F 4. Whoever fears God and works righteousness is accepted by God.
T F 5. Peter forbade any of those present to be baptized.

Discussion Question

How does a person fear God and work righteousness?

Acts Chapter Eleven

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 26

“And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.”

Key People

Apostles
Brethren in Judea
Peter
John (the Baptist)
Stephen
Barnabas
Saul
Agabus
Claudius Caesar

Key Places

Judea
Jerusalem
Joppa
Caesarea
Phoenicia
Cyprus
Antioch
Cyrene
Tarsus

Key Words

Circumcision
Trance
Common
Unclean
Baptized
Withstand
Hellenists
Christians
Prophets
Famine

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Who contended with Peter? What did they say that he did that was wrong? (v. 3)
2. What, according to verse 9, should one not call “common?”
3. What was Peter to tell those who had assembled in a man’s house in Caesarea? (v. 14)
4. What fell on those in the man’s house as Peter began to speak? (v. 15)
5. When Peter witnessed what had happened, what conclusion did he draw? (v. 17)
6. Having heard Peter’s explanation, what did “those of the circumcision” do? What did they say? (v. 18)
7. What, according to verse 19, had caused the disciples to scatter? How far did they go? To whom did they preach?
8. What happened when men from Cyprus and Cyrene preached the Lord Jesus at Antioch? (vv. 20-21)
9. Who, according to verse 22, was sent to Antioch? Who sent him? Why was he sent?
10. According to verses 25 and 26, who assembled with the church in Antioch for over a year? What did they do while there?
11. What were the disciples in Antioch called?
12. Who, according to verse 27, came from Jerusalem to Antioch?
13. What did Agabus prophesy?
14. When was the prophecy of Agabus fulfilled?
15. What did the disciples at Antioch determine to do? To whom did they send a gift? By whom was it delivered?

Matching

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Peter | A. Had been living in Tarsus but went to Antioch. |
| _____ 2. Stephen | B. Sent to Antioch by the Jerusalem church. |
| _____ 3. Barnabas | C. Prophesied a famine. |
| _____ 4. Saul | D. Fell into a trance while praying in the city of Joppa. |
| _____ 5. Agabus | E. Persecution arose after his death. |

Discussion Question

Why do you think that Antioch was the first place where the disciples were called “Christians?”

Acts Chapter Twelve

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 24

“But the word of God grew and multiplied.”

Key People

Herod
James (v. 2)
John
Peter
Angel of the Lord
Mary
John Mark
Rhoda
James (v. 17)
Blastus
Barnabas
Saul

Key Places

Judea
Caesarea
Tyre
Sidon
Jerusalem

Key Words

Harass
Days of Unleavened Bread
Passover
Gird
Expectation
Astonished
Oration

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What was Herod seeking to do to some from the church?
2. Who did Herod kill? With what did he kill him?
3. Seeing that the above killing pleased the Jews, what then did Herod do? When did he do it? (vv. 3-4)
4. What did the church do for Peter while he was in prison? (v. 5)
5. How did Peter get out of prison? (vv. 6-11)
6. Where did Peter go after he was released from prison?
7. Who met Peter at the gate? Why did she not open the gate to him?
8. What was the reaction of the church when they saw Peter?
9. What did Herod do to the soldiers who had guarded Peter in prison?
10. What happened to Herod? Why did this happen to him? (v. 23)

Matching

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Herod | A. Eaten by worms. |
| _____ 2. James | B. The king's personal aide. |
| _____ 3. Peter | C. Killed with sword. |
| _____ 4. Blastus | D. Cast into prison. |
| _____ 5. John Mark | E. Went with Saul and Barnabas to Antioch. |

True - False

- T F 1. Herod killed James the brother of Jesus with the sword.
T F 2. An angel of the Lord freed Peter from prison.
T F 3. Rhoda would not open the gate to Peter because she was afraid.
T F 4. Herod gave the soldiers who guarded Peter medals of commendation.
T F 5. The people shouted that Herod had the voice of a god not a man.

Discussion Question

Why do you think the word of God grew and multiplied at this time?

Acts Chapter Thirteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 2

“As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’”

Key People

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Barnabas | Saul (v. 21) |
| Simeon (Niger) | Kish |
| Lucius | Benjamin |
| Manaen | David |
| Herod | Jesse |
| Saul (Paul) | Jesus |
| John (vv. 5, 13) | John (v. 24) |
| Bar-Jesus (Elymas) | Abraham |
| Sergius Paulus | Pilate |
| Samuel | Moses |

Key Places

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Antioch (v. 1) | Pamphylia |
| Cyrene | Antioch (v. 14) |
| Seleucia | Pisidia |
| Cyprus | Egypt |
| Salamis | Canaan |
| Paphos | Jerusalem |
| Perga | Galilee |
| | Iconium |

Key Words

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Church | Sabbath |
| Tetrarch | Exhortation |
| Fasted | Allotment |
| Synagogues | Judges |
| Sorcerer | Fulfilled |
| Proconsul | Corruption |
| Deceit | Justified |
| Fraud | Proselytes |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. List the prophets and teachers at Antioch.
2. Who separated Barnabas and Saul from the others at Antioch?
3. Where did Barnabas and Saul go? (v. 4)
4. What did Barnabas and Saul do at Salamis? Who was with them?
5. What did Barnabas and Saul find in Paphos?
6. What did Sergius Paulus want from Barnabas and Saul? Who opposed that? Why was he opposed to it?
7. What did Paul do to the one who opposed him and Barnabas? (vv. 9-11)
8. Who left Barnabas and Saul at Perga?
9. Where did Paul and Barnabas go in Antioch in Pisidia?
10. What did Paul tell about Jesus to those who were assembled in the synagogue in Antioch in Pisidia? (v. 38)
11. Who begged to hear Paul’s preaching the next Sabbath? (v. 42)
12. When the Jews in Antioch in Pisidia saw the whole city come together to hear Paul preach the word of God, what did they do? (vv. 44-45)
13. Why did Paul and Barnabas “turn to the Gentiles” with their preaching? (v. 46)
14. What, according to verse 49, was being spread throughout all the region?
15. Where did Paul and Barnabas go when they left Antioch in Pisidia?

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| ____ 1. Seleucia | A. Barnabas and Saul preached the word of God in the synagogues. |
| ____ 2. Salamis | B. John returned from here to go to Jerusalem. |
| ____ 3. Paphos | C. Persecution was raised up here against Paul and Barnabas. |
| ____ 4. Perga in Pamphylia | D. Barnabas and Saul set sail from her to Cyprus. |
| ____ 5. Antioch in Pisidia | E. Barnabas and Saul met Elymas the sorcerer. |

Discussion Question

Why do you think it was “necessary” (v. 46) for Paul and Barnabas to preach to the Jews first?

Acts Chapter Fourteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 27

“Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.”

Key People

Paul
Barnabas
A cripple
Zeus
Hermes

Key Places

Iconium
Lystra
Derbe
Lycaonia
Antioch (v. 19)
Pisidia
Pamphylia
Perga
Attalia
Antioch (v. 26)

Key Words

Synagogue
Poisoned
Cripple
Garlands
Bygone
Generations
Elders

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What, according to verse one, happened when Paul and Barnabas arrived at Iconium?
2. What did the unbelieving Jews in Iconium do in reference to the Gentiles? (v. 2) What was the reaction of Paul and Barnabas? (v. 3)
3. What did the Jews and Gentiles of Iconium seek to do to Paul and Barnabas? (v. 5) What did Paul and Barnabas do because of it? (v. 6)
4. What did Paul command a cripple at Lystra to do? What did the man do in response to this command?
5. Because of what they had seen and heard, who did the people of Lystra think Paul and Barnabas were? What was the reaction of Paul and Barnabas to this? (vv. 11-15)
6. Who came to Lystra from Antioch and Iconium? What did they persuade the multitudes to do to Paul?
7. Where did Paul and Barnabas go when they left Lystra? What did they do there?
8. According to verse 22, what is involved in entering the kingdom of God?
9. Upon returning to the cities where they had preached, what did Paul and Barnabas do in every church? (v. 23)
10. After arriving in Antioch, what, according to verses 27 and 28, did Paul and Barnabas do?

Matching

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Iconium | A. Paul and Barnabas made many disciples here. |
| _____ 2. Lystra | B. Unbelieving Jews poisoned the minds of the Gentiles here. |
| _____ 3. Derbe | C. Paul healed a cripple here. |
| _____ 4. Attalia | D. It was here that Paul and Barnabas reported to the church all that God had done for them. |
| _____ 5. Antioch | E. Paul and Barnabas sailed from this port on their return home. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | 1. God bore witness to the word in Iconium by granting signs and wonders to be done by Paul and Barnabas. |
| T | F | 2. Paul was stoned and left for dead in Iconium. |
| T | F | 3. Paul was stoned and left for dead in Lystra. |
| T | F | 4. The people in Lystra regarded Paul as the god Zeus and Barnabas as the god Hermes. |
| T | F | 5. Paul and Barnabas appointed elders in every church. |

Discussion Question

What were the “useless things” that Paul referred to in his sermon at Lystra? (v. 15)

Acts Chapter Fifteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 19

“Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God...”

Key People

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Moses | Simon |
| Paul | David |
| Barnabas | Moses |
| The Apostles | Judas (Barsabas) |
| Peter | Silas |
| James | John Mark |

Key Places

Judea
Jerusalem
Phoenicia
Samaria
Antioch
Syria
Cilicia
Pamphylia
Cyprus

Key Words

Circumcised
Dessension
Sect
Pharisees
Gentiles
Distinction
Purifying
Yoke
Polluted
Synagogues
Abstain
Strangled
Immorality
Contention

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What were men from Judea teaching the brethren at Antioch?
2. What was the reaction of Paul and Barnabas to the Judeans' teaching?
3. What did they determine that was needed to be done about this teaching? (v. 3)
4. What were the Pharisees in Jerusalem teaching? Who “came together to consider this matter?”
5. What conclusion did Peter reach on this teaching in:
 - a. Verse 9?
 - b. Verse 11?
6. What did Paul and Barnabas declare to this meeting? (v. 12)
7. What was the general conclusion about this teaching as stated by James in verses 19 and 20?
8. Who was sent with Paul and Barnabas to Antioch? What did they bring with them? (vv. 22-23)
9. What was the reaction in Antioch to the message sent from Jerusalem? (v. 31)
10. When Judas returned to Jerusalem, who stayed in Antioch?
11. What, in verse 36, did Paul suggest to Barnabas?
12. Who was Barnabas determined to take with them? Why did Paul object to taking him?
13. What arose as a result of the above objection?
14. Who accompanied Barnabas? Where did they go?
15. Who accompanied Paul? Where did they go?

Matching

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| ___ 1. Paul | A. Chosen by God to be the first to preach to the Gentiles. |
| ___ 2. Peter | B. Departed in Pamphylia. |
| ___ 3. James | C. Delivered a letter from Jerusalem. |
| ___ 4. Silas | D. Had a sharp contention with Barnabas. |
| ___ 5. John Mark | E. Said not to trouble the Gentiles who are turning to God. |

Discussion Question

Based on the disagreement between Paul and Barnabas, how can brethren disagree with one another and still be right before God?

Acts Chapter Sixteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 30-31

“And he brought them out and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ So they said, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.’”

Key People

Timothy
Paul
Lydia
A slave girl
Silas
Keeper of the prison

Key Places

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Derbe | Mysia |
| Lystra | Troas |
| Iconium | Macedonia |
| Jerusalem | Samothrace |
| Phrygia | Neapolis |
| Galatia | Philippi |
| Asia | Thyatira |

Key Words

Circumcised
Decrees
Forbidden
Vision
Sabbath
Baptized
Possessed
Divination
Fortune-telling
Annoyed
Magistrates
Exceedingly
Stocks

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Where did Timothy live? Describe his parentage. Describe his character.
2. Why did Paul have Timothy circumcised?
3. What was the condition of the churches in the area? (v. 5)
4. Where did the Holy Spirit forbid Paul to preach the word? (vv. 6-7)
5. What did Paul have while in Troas? What did he conclude from this?
6. What is described as “the foremost city of that part of Macedonia?”
7. Who was Lydia? What did the Lord do for her? How did she respond to the teaching of Paul?
8. What did “a certain slave girl” do in relation to Paul? What was Paul’s reaction to her?
9. What did the masters of the slave girl do to Paul and Silas?
10. What did the Philippian magistrates do to Paul and Silas?
11. While Paul and Silas were in prison, what were they doing?
12. What happened at midnight in the prison?
13. Why did the keeper of the prison think of killing himself? How many prisoners escaped?
14. What did the keeper of the prison ask of Paul and Silas? What was their response? How did the keeper of the prison respond to that?
15. Why did Paul refuse to “secretly” leave the city of Philippi? (vv. 35-40)

Matching

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| ____ 1. Timothy | A. Well spoken of by the brethren at Lystra and Iconium. |
| ____ 2. Paul | B. Washed the stripes of Paul and Silas. |
| ____ 3. Slave girl | C. Praying and singing hymns at midnight. |
| ____ 4. Lydia | D. Possessed a spirit of divination. |
| ____ 5. Keeper of the prison | E. A seller of purple from Thyatira. |

Discussion Question

How did the Lord open the heart of Lydia?

Acts Chapter Seventeen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 30-31

“Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Key People

Paul
Jesus
Silas
Jason
Timothy
Dionysius
Damaris

Key Places

Amphipolis
Apollonia
Thessalonica
Berea
Athens
Areopagus

Key Words

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Sabbaths | Honored |
| Security | Prominent |
| Provoked | Idols |
| Epicurean | Stoic |
| Philosophers | Babbler |
| Foreign | Resurrection |
| Preappointed | Boundaries |
| Offspring | Ignorance |
| Repent | |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What cities did Paul and Silas pass through on their way to Thessalonica?
2. What did Paul do when he arrived at Thessalonica?
3. According to verse four, how was Paul’s preaching received?
4. Who was not persuaded by Paul’s preaching? What did they do in response to it? (vv. 5-8)
5. Where did the brethren send Paul and Silas?
6. According to verse 11, what kind of people were the Bereans?
7. Why did the Bereans send Paul away? Who remained in Berea?
8. Why was Paul’s spirit provoked when he arrived in Athens?
9. With whom, according to verse 17, did Paul reason daily?
10. What did the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers say of Paul?
11. What, according to verse 21, did the Athenians spend their time doing?
12. Where did Paul deliver his sermon? (v. 22)
13. What did Paul say that God:
 - a. Made? (v. 24)
 - b. Gives? (v. 25)
 - c. Made from one blood? (v. 26)
14. Where, according to verse 27, is God?
15. What does God now command? Why is that commanded?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | 1. The Jews in Thessalonica were envious of Paul. |
| T | F | 2. The Bereans searched the Scriptures daily. |
| T | F | 3. Paul called the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers babblers. |
| T | F | 4. There was an altar in Athens dedicated “to the Unknown God.” |
| T | F | 5. All humans are the offspring of God. |

Discussion Question

How does the fact that Jesus was raised from the dead give assurance that one day He will judge the world in righteousness?

Acts Chapter Eighteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 4-5

“And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks. When Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia, Paul was compelled by the Spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ.”

Key People

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Paul | Jesus |
| Aquila | Justus |
| Priscilla | Crispus |
| Claudius | Gallio |
| Silas | Sosthenes |
| Timothy | Apollos |

Key Places

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Athens | Cenchrea |
| Corinth | Ephesus |
| Pontus | Jerusalem |
| Italy | Caesarea |
| Rome | Antioch |
| Macedonia | Galatia |
| Achaia | Phrygia |
| Syria | Alexandria |

Key Words

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Trade | Blasphemed |
| Occupation | Judgment seat |
| Tentmakers | Vow |
| Synagogue | Eloquent |
| Sabbath | Exhorting |
| Persuaded | Refuted |
| Compelled | |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Where did Paul go when he left Athens? Who did he find there?
2. What was Paul's occupation?
3. What did Paul do every Sabbath?
4. What was Paul compelled to do when Silas and Timothy had come from Macedonia? Who compelled him?
5. When the Jews opposed his preaching, what did Paul tell them? (v. 6)
6. Who was Crispus? What did he do? What did many of the Corinthians do?
7. What did the Lord tell Paul in a vision? (vv. 10-11)
8. How long did Paul stay in Corinth?
9. According to verse 12, where was Paul brought? Who brought him there?
10. Who was Gallio? What judgment did he make concerning Paul?
11. Who was Sosthenes? What happened to him?
12. Who was with Paul when he sailed for Syria? What did Paul do at Cenchrea? Why did he do it?
13. What did the Ephesians ask Paul to do? What was his reply?
14. After spending some time in Antioch, what did Paul do?
15. Who was Apollos? Why did Aquila and Priscilla take him aside?

Matching

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Pontus | A. Gallio was proconsul of it. |
| _____ 2. Achaia | B. Birthplace of Apollos. |
| _____ 3. Cenchrea | C. Birthplace of Aquila. |
| _____ 4. Ephesus | D. Paul shaved his head there. |
| _____ 5. Alexandria | E. Paul refused to stay a longer time there. |

Discussion Question

What was wrong with Apollos knowing “only the baptism of John?”

Acts Chapter Nineteen

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 10

“And this continued for two years, so that all who dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.”

Key People

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Apollos | Erastus |
| Paul | Demetrius |
| John | Diana |
| Christ Jesus | Gaius |
| Tyrannus | Aristarchus |
| Sceva | Alexander |
| Timothy | Zeus |

Key Places

Corinth
Ephesus
Asia
Macedonia
Achaia
Jerusalem
Rome

Key Words

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Baptism | Silversmith |
| Tongues | Craftsmen |
| Prophesied | Prosperity |
| Synagogue | Despised |
| Itinerant | Magnificence |
| Exorcists | Venture |
| Exorcise | Proconsuls |
| Magnified | Uproar |
| Magic | |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. When Paul came to Ephesus, what did he ask some disciples there? What was their reply? (v. 2)
2. What, in verse three, was Paul’s next question? What did they reply to it?
3. What, according to verse five, did these disciples do?
4. How did the Holy Spirit come upon these disciples? (v. 6)
5. How long did Paul preach in the synagogue at Ephesus?
6. How long did Paul preach in the school of Tyrannus at Ephesus?
7. What did God work by the hands of Paul?
8. What did some itinerant Jewish exorcists seek to do?
9. What did an evil spirit say and do in response to the exorcists?
10. What, according to verses 18 and 19, did many believers do?
11. Who did Paul send to Macedonia?
12. Why did Demetrius stir up the people against Paul? (vv. 26-27)
13. Who did the rioters take into the theater?
14. Of what, according to verse 32, were most of the assembly in the theater unaware?
15. Why did the city clerk first quiet then dismiss the assembly? (vv. 40-41)

Matching

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Tyrannus | A. A silversmith. |
| _____ 2. Sceva | B. Sent to Macedonia by Paul. |
| _____ 3. Erastus | C. Seized and taken into the theater. |
| _____ 4. Demetrius | D. Had a school in Ephesus. |
| _____ 5. Gaius | E. A Jewish priest who had seven sons. |

Discussion Question

Why, since they had been baptized with the baptism of John, did twelve disciples at Ephesus have to be baptized again?

Acts Chapter Twenty

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 32

“So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”

Key People

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Paul | Timothy |
| Sopater | Tychicus |
| Aristarchus | Trophimus |
| Secundus | Eutychus |
| Gaius | Jesus |

Key Places

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| Macedonia | Chios |
| Greece | Samos |
| Syria | Trogylliam |
| Troas | Miletus |
| Philippi | Ephesus |
| Assos | Jerusalem |
| Mitylene | |

Key Words

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Uproar | Overseers |
| Elders | Shepherd (verb) |
| Testifying | Savage |
| Tribulations | Perverse |
| Innocent | Commend |
| Shunned | Inheritance |
| Counsel | Sanctified |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Where did Paul go when he left Ephesus?
2. Who accompanied Paul to Asia?
3. What did the disciples in Troas do on the first day of the week?
4. What happened to Eutychus while Paul was speaking in Troas? What then did Paul do for him?
5. Why, according to verse 16, was Paul hurrying to get to Jerusalem?
6. Who did Paul ask to meet him at Miletus?
7. What was Paul’s attitude knowing “that chains and tribulations” awaited him in every city? (v. 24)
8. Why was Paul “innocent of the blood of all men?” (v. 27)
9. Who purchased the church of God? With what did He purchase it?
10. Who did Paul say would arise among the Ephesians? What would they do? (vv. 29-30)
11. What did Paul say he had done for three years while he was in Ephesus?
12. To what did Paul commend the Ephesian elders? What would it do for them?
13. Who did Paul tell the Ephesian elders they were to support? (v. 35)
14. What did Paul say that Jesus had said concerning giving and receiving?
15. Why were the Ephesian elders so sorrowful upon Paul’s departure?

True - False

- T F 1. Paul stayed in Greece for six months.
T F 2. Paul preached in Troas until midnight.
T F 3. Paul was hurrying to Jerusalem for the Feast of Dedication.
T F 4. Paul called for the Ephesian elders to meet him at Mitylene.
T F 5. Paul, while at Ephesus, had declared the whole counsel of God.

Discussion Question

Why is it more blessed to give than to receive?

Acts Chapter Twenty-One

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 13

“Then Paul answered, ‘What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.’”

Key People

Paul
Philip
Agabus
Mnason
James
Trophimus

Key Places

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| Cos | Jerusalem |
| Rhodes | Ptolemais |
| Patara | Caesarea |
| Phoenicia | Judea |
| Cyprus | Asia |
| Syria | Tarsus |
| Tyre | Cilicia |

Key Words

| | |
|------------|------------|
| Evangelist | Observe |
| Persuaded | Expiration |
| Lodge | Defiled |
| Myriads | Garrison |
| Zealous | Uproar |
| Circumcise | Centurions |
| Vow | Barracks |
| Purified | Permission |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What did the disciples in Tyre tell Paul? How long did he stay in Tyre?
2. Where did Paul go when he left Tyre? How long did he stay there?
3. In whose house did Paul stay while he was in Caesarea?
4. Who, according to verse ten, met Paul in Caesarea? What did he tell him?
5. Hearing what had been said to Paul, about what did his traveling companions and the disciples at Caesarea plead with him? What was his reply? (vv. 12-14)
6. After arriving in Jerusalem, what did Paul tell James and the other elders?
7. What did James and the other elders say that the Jews believed about Paul? (vv. 20-21)
8. What solution did James and the other elders offer to get the Jews to change their views of Paul? (vv. 23-24)
9. Who stirred up the crowd against Paul? Of what did they say he was guilty? (vv. 27-28)
10. What did the people do to Paul? (vv. 30-31) Who stopped them?
11. Where was Paul taken by the commander of the troops? What did Paul request as he was being led there? (vv. 37-39)
12. In what language did Paul speak to the people?

Matching

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Cos | A. Passed it on the left. |
| _____ 2. Cyprus | B. Paul stayed there seven days. |
| _____ 3. Tyre | C. Agabus came to visit Paul from there. |
| _____ 4. Ptolemais | D. The whole city was in an uproar against Paul. |
| _____ 5. Caesarea | E. Paul described it as “no mean city.” |
| _____ 6. Judea | F. Ran a straight course to. |
| _____ 7. Jerusalem | G. Paul stayed there one day. |
| _____ 8. Tarsus | H. Philip lived there. |

Discussion Question

Seeing that the law of Christ was now in effect and that the law of Moses had been taken away, why would Paul follow its laws of purification?

Acts Chapter Twenty-Two

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 16

“And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

Key People

Paul (Saul)
Gamaliel
Jesus
Ananias
Stephen

Key Places

Tarsus
Cilicia
Damascus
Jerusalem
Nazareth

Key Words

Strictness
Zealous
Appointed
Baptized
Trance
Synagogue
Scourging
Centurion
Roman
Uncondemned
Citizenship

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Why, according to verse two, did the crowd hearing Paul keep silent when he began to speak?
2. Where did Paul say he was born? Where did he say he was “brought up?” who taught him there?
3. What had Paul previously done in regards to:
 - a. The Way?
 - b. Both men and women?
4. Why had Saul journeyed to Damascus?
5. Who appeared to Saul while he traveled to Damascus? What did he ask Saul?
6. What did the one who appeared to Saul tell him to do? (v. 11)
7. Who was sent to Paul while he was in Damascus? What did he tell Saul to do? (vv. 12-16)
8. From what city was Paul told to depart? Why was he to leave there? (v. 21)
9. What was the crowd’s reaction to Paul’s speech? (vv. 22-23)
10. Why did the centurion and commander exercise caution in relation to Paul? (v. 26)

Matching

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ 1. Tarsus | A. Birthplace of Paul. |
| _____ 2. Cilicia | B. City where Paul was educated. |
| _____ 3. Damascus | C. City where Jesus was raised. |
| _____ 4. Jerusalem | D. City where Paul was converted. |
| _____ 5. Nazareth | E. Province of Asia Minor. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. Paul addressed the crowd in the Aramaic language. |
| T | F | 2. The Lord appeared to Saul while he was on the way to Tarsus. |
| T | F | 3. Ananias told Saul he needed to be baptized to wash away his sins. |
| T | F | 4. Saul consented to the death of Stephen. |
| T | F | 5. Paul was not scourged because of his Jewish citizenship. |

Discussion Question

How did Saul call on the name of the Lord?

Acts Chapter Twenty-Three

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 11

“But the following night the Lord stood by him and said, ‘Be of good cheer, Paul; for as you have testified of Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome.’”

Key People

Paul
Ananias
Paul’s sister’s son
Claudius Lysias
Felix

Key Places

Jerusalem
Rome
Caesarea
Antipatris
Cilicia
Herod’s Praetorium

Key Words

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Conscience | Dissension |
| Whitewashed | Testified |
| Reville | Oath |
| Pharisee | Conspiracy |
| Sadducee | Ambush |
| Resurrection | Centurions |
| Outcry | Yield |
| Protested | Province |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. In what had Paul lived until that day?
2. Who was Ananias? What did he command be done to Paul?
3. What was Paul’s reaction to Ananias’ command?
4. According to verse six, what did Paul perceive about the council? What did it cause him to cry out?
5. In what, according to verse eight, did the Sadducees not believe?
6. What arose in the council because of what Paul said? (vv. 9-10)
7. What assurance did the Lord give Paul in verse 11?
8. What did some Jews take an oath to do? How many of them were there?
9. How were these Jews going to carry out their plan? (v. 15)
10. Who informed Paul of this plot? To whom did Paul send him? (vv. 16-22)
11. What did the commander determine to do with Paul? (vv. 23-24)
12. Who was governor?
13. In his letter to the governor, what did the commander say Paul had not done? (v. 24)
14. Who took Paul to Caesarea? (vv. 23, 31-32)
15. When did the governor say he would hear Paul? Where did he keep him until then?

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. Paul called Ananias a whitewashed wall. |
| T | F | 2. Paul claimed to be a Sadducee. |
| T | F | 3. The Pharisees did not believe in the resurrection. |
| T | F | 4. Paul was an only child. |
| T | F | 5. Paul and the soldiers stopped at Antipatris on their way to Caesarea. |

Discussion Question

How could Paul “have lived in all good conscience before God until this day” when previously he had been guilty of great sins?

Acts Chapter Twenty-Four

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 25

“Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid and answered, ‘Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you.’”

Key People

Ananias
Tertullus
Paul
Felix
Lysias
Drusilla
Porcius Festus

Key Places

Jerusalem
Asia

Key Words

Orator
Accusation
Prosperity
Tedious
Plague
Dissension
Ringleader
Profane
Ascertain
Inciting
Conscience
Alms
Adjourned
Righteousness
Convenient

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. After five days, who went down to Caesarea from Jerusalem? Why did they go? (v. 1)
2. Of what charges did the Jews accuse Paul before the governor? (vv. 5-6)
3. How did Paul answer these charges? (v. 13)
4. What did Paul always strive to have? (v. 16)
5. When did Felix say he would make a decision on Paul’s case? (v. 22)
6. According to verse 23, what was Paul allowed during his imprisonment in Caesarea?
7. Who was the wife of Felix? Of what nationality was she?
8. About what did Paul reason with Felix? What was Felix’s response?
9. What did Felix hope that Paul would give him?
10. Who succeeded Felix as governor? Before Felix left, what favor did he do for the Jews?

Matching

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ 1. Ananias | A. Husband of Drusilla. |
| _____ 2. Tertullus | B. Commander. |
| _____ 3. Lysias | C. Replaced Felix as governor. |
| _____ 4. Felix | D. High priest. |
| _____ 5. Porcius Festus | E. An orator. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | 1. Tertullus accused Paul before Felix. |
| T | F | 2. Paul was accused of being a ringleader of the Nazarenes. |
| T | F | 3. Paul said it was no more than five days since he had gone to Jerusalem to worship. |
| T | F | 4. Paul said his accusers could not prove the accusations they made against him. |
| T | F | 5. Festus hoped that Paul would give him money. |

Discussion Question

What do you think Paul talked about when he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come?

Acts Chapter Twenty-Five

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 10-11

“So Paul said, ‘I stand at Caesar’s judgment sea, where I ought to be judged. To the Jews I have done no wrong, as you very well know. For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar.’”

Key People

Festus
Paul
Caesar
King Agrippa
Bernice
Felix
Jesus
Augustus

Key Places

Caesarea
Jerusalem

Key Words

Petitioned
Ambush
Offended
Judgment
Custom
Affirmed
Pomp
Auditorium
Unreasonable
Specify

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What favor did the high priest and chief men of the Jews ask of Festus while he was in Jerusalem? What was their purpose in asking this favor?
2. What was Festus’ answer to the above request?
3. Where did Festus tell the Jews to go to bring charges against Paul?
4. Could the Jews prove any of the complaints they brought against Paul?
5. To where did Festus ask Paul if he would go and be judged? (v. 9)
6. To whom did Paul appeal? (v. 11) What was Festus’ response to Paul’s appeal? (v. 12)
7. Who, according to verse 13, came to “greet” Festus? What did he lay before them? (v. 14)
8. What did Agrippa want in relation to Paul? (v. 22)
9. What did Festus admit in regard to Paul? (v. 25)
10. Why did Festus say he brought Paul before Agrippa?

Matching

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| _____ 1. Festus | A. Roman emperor. |
| _____ 2. Paul | B. Former Roman governor. |
| _____ 3. Agrippa | C. Jewish king. |
| _____ 4. Felix | D. Current Roman governor. |
| _____ 5. Augustus | E. Appealed to Caesar. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. Festus went from Caesarea to Jerusalem only three days after he had come to the province. |
| T | F | 2. The Jews wanted to ambush Paul as he traveled to Jerusalem. |
| T | F | 3. Festus remained in Jerusalem for fourteen days. |
| T | F | 4. Paul said he had done nothing against the law of the Jews, the temple, or Caesar. |
| T | F | 5. It seemed reasonable to Festus to send a prisoner to Caesar without specifying charges against him. |

Discussion Question

Why do you think that Festus would want to do the Jews a favor?

Acts Chapter Twenty-Six

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 17-18

“I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.”

Key People

Agrippa
Paul
Jesus
Moses
Festus
Bernice
Caesar

Key Places

Jerusalem
Nazareth
Damascus
Judea

Key Words

Sect
Synagogue
Blaspheme
Authority
Commission
Persecuting
Goads
Minister
Witness
Befitting
Persuade
Christian

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. Why was Paul happy to make his defense before King Agrippa? (vv. 2-3)
2. Of what sect of the Jews was Paul?
3. What had Paul thought to do before he was converted? (v. 9)
4. To what extent did Paul persecute Christians? (vv. 10-11)
5. For what purpose, according to verse 16, did Jesus appear to Saul while he was on his way to Damascus?
6. For what purpose, according to verse 18, was Paul sent to the Gentiles?
7. What did Paul declare in Damascus, Jerusalem, and Judea and to the Gentiles? (v. 20)
8. What did Festus accuse Paul of being? Why did he make such an accusation? What was Paul's response? (vv. 24-25)
9. What did Agrippa admit to Paul in verse 28? What was Paul's response?
10. What conclusion was reached in regard to Paul's guilt or innocence? (v. 31)

Matching

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Agrippa | A. Accused Paul of being mad. |
| _____ 2. Caesar | B. Prophesied that Christ would suffer. |
| _____ 3. Jesus | C. Paul had appealed his case to him. |
| _____ 4. Moses | D. Almost persuaded to be a Christian. |
| _____ 5. Festus | E. Appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. Paul was unhappy that he had to make a defense before Agrippa. |
| T | F | 2. Paul had lived according to the strictest sect of the Jewish religion. |
| T | F | 3. Paul went to Damascus with authority and commission from the chief priests. |
| T | F | 4. Paul was to open the eyes of the Gentiles. |
| T | F | 5. In his defense, Paul spoke words of truth and reason. |

Discussion Question

What do you think were some of the things that kept King Agrippa from becoming a Christian?

Acts Chapter Twenty-Seven

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verses 22-24

“And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.’”

Key People

Paul
Julius
Aristarchus
Caesar

Key Places

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Adramyttium | Cnidus |
| Asia | Crete |
| Sidon | Salome |
| Cyprus | Fair Havens |
| Cilicia | Lasea |
| Pamphylia | Phoenix |
| Myra | Clauda |
| Lycia | Syrtis Sands |
| Italy | Adriatic Sea |

Key Words

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| Liberty | Incurred |
| The Fast | Soundings |
| Helmsman | Fathom |
| Tempetuous | Prow |
| Euroclydon | Nourishment |
| Skiff | Survival |
| Tackle | Rudder |
| Abstinence | Mainsail |

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. To whom was Paul delivered? For what purpose was he delivered?
2. Where was Paul given liberty? Why was it given to him?
3. Where did Paul change ships? (vv. 5-6)
4. Why, according to verse 9, was sailing now dangerous?
5. What arose against Paul’s ship? What did it cause the ship to do? (vv. 14-15)
6. What did an angel of God tell Paul? (vv. 23-24)
7. When some of the sailors were attempting to escape the ship, what did Paul tell the centurion and soldiers? (vv. 30-31)
8. According to verse 33, how long had the people onboard ship gone without eating? What did Paul urge them to do?
9. How many people were on the ship?
10. When the ship ran aground, what did the soldiers plan to do with the prisoners? Who stopped them? Why did he stop them?

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Sidon | A. A harbor of Crete. |
| _____ 2. Myra | B. An island which Paul’s ship ran under the shelter of. |
| _____ 3. Fair Havens | C. Where Paul was treated kindly by Julius. |
| _____ 4. Phoenix | D. A city of Lycia. |
| _____ 5. Clauda | E. Near the city of Lasea. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| T | F | 1. Aristarchus was a Macedonian from Thessalonica. |
| T | F | 2. The centurion found an Italian ship which was sailing to Alexandria. |
| T | F | 3. The harbor at Fair Havens was not a safe place in which to winter. |
| T | F | 4. Those on the ship saw neither sun nor stars for many days. |
| T | F | 5. When the ship ran aground, all those onboard made it safely to land. |

Discussion Question

Why do you think the centurion, when Paul advised him not to leave the harbor, listened to the helmsman and the owner of the ship instead of listening to Paul? Why does he later listen to Paul when he spoke in verse 31?

Acts Chapter Twenty-Eight

Keys to This Chapter

Key Passage: Verse 22

“But we desire to hear from you what you think; for concerning this sect, we know that it is spoken against everywhere.”

Key People

Paul
Publius
Caesar
Judea
Jesus
Moses
Isaiah

Key Places

Malta
Syracuse
Rhegium
Puteoli
Rome
Appii Forum
Three Inns
Jerusalem

Key Words

Kindled
Viper
Justice
Dysentery
Solemnly
Compelled

Key Lesson

Questions on the Text

1. What happened to Paul while warming himself by a fire on the island of Malta?
2. What was the conclusion of the island’s natives when they saw what happened to Paul? What different conclusion did they later reach? What caused them to change their minds?
3. Who was Publius?
4. What did Paul do for the father of Publius? What did this cause others on the island to do?
5. Who did Paul find at Puteoli? How long did he stay there?
6. Who met Paul at Appii Forum and Three Fountains? What was Paul’s response when seeing them?
7. When he arrived at Rome, what were Paul’s living conditions?
8. Who did Paul call together three days after his arrival in Rome? Why, according to verse 20, did he meet with them?
9. What was the reaction of the Jews in Rome after Paul spoke to them about the kingdom of God? (vv. 24-25, 29)
10. How long was Paul’s stay in Rome? What did he do while there? (vv. 30-31)

Matching

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Malta | A. Paul reached there after circling around. |
| _____ 2. Syracuse | B. Paul stayed there seven days. |
| _____ 3. Rhegium | C. Paul took courage and thanked God when brethren met him there. |
| _____ 4. Puteoli | D. An island where Publius was a leading citizen. |
| _____ 5. Appii Forum | E. Paul stayed there three days. |

True - False

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. While on Malta, Paul was bitten by a viper but suffered no harm. |
| T | F | 2. Publius’ father died from dysentery. |
| T | F | 3. When he arrived in Rome, Paul, along with the other prisoners, was turned over to the captain of the guard. |
| T | F | 4. Paul quoted a prophecy to Isaiah to the Jews in Rome. |
| T | F | 5. Paul said, “The salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles but they will not hear it!” |

Discussion Question

What sect was “spoken against everywhere?” Why do you think people spoke against it?

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