

Acts

A 29 lesson study, which includes:

An Introduction

A Book Outline

Textual Questions

Acts in review: to aid in remembering the content of each chapter

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INTRODUCTION TO ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

I. THE LAST OF THE HISTORICAL BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

- A. The first five books of the New Testament are historical in nature.
- B. Other New Testament books contain historical events but are mainly instructional or doctrinal in nature.
- C. “Acts” forms a bridge between the “gospels” and the “epistles”.
 - 1. It tells of the final days of Jesus Christ on the earth, and relates His final instructions to the disciples before His ascension.
 - 2. It serves as an introduction to the epistles that follow.

II. THE TITLE

- A. The commonly accepted title for the book is misleading: “The Acts Of The Apostles”.
 - 1. It is not a record of some or all of the acts of all the apostles.
 - 2. It is a record of some of the acts of some of the apostles.
- B. It mainly shows us the acts of Peter and Paul.
 - 1. The only other apostles mentioned are John and James.
 - 2. It contains more of a record of the acts of Stephen, Phillip, Timothy and Silas than of other apostles.

III. THE WRITER

- A. The writer never mentions his name in the book.
- B. Conclusive evidence of the writer is obtained by comparing “Acts” with another book.
 - 1. In Acts 1:1-2 we learn two things.
 - a. The writer had written a previous book to Theophilus.
 - b. That book was about the life of Jesus.
 - 2. By comparison we know this to be the gospel of “Luke” (1:1-4).

C. While the writer never refers to himself by name, he does include himself in the number of those men who traveled with Paul.

1. By the use of the pronoun “we” (16:10-16; 18:27-28; 20:5-21).

D. Regarding Luke:

1. He is not to be confused with “Lucius” a prophet from Antioch (Acts 13:1), or the “kinsman” of Paul (Rom 16:21).
2. His name occurs only in Col 4:14; 2 Tim 4:11; Phile 24.
3. He is distinguished from those “of the circumcision”, therefore he was evidently a Gentile (Col 4:10-14).
4. He may have been a Jewish proselyte, but we don’t know for certain.
5. His native town is supposed to have been Antioch of Syria.
6. He is called “the beloved physician” (Col 4:14).
7. He was a “companion” of and “fellow worker” with Paul (2 Tim 4:11; Phile 24).
8. He was with Paul from Troas to Philippi (2nd tour – 16:10), and then from Philippi to Jerusalem to Rome (3rd tour – 20:6).
9. Although Luke was not an apostle, he spent much time with an apostle (Paul). And Paul, having power from God to confer upon the early Christians the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit, would certainly have conferred upon Luke the divine ability to accurately record his information.

IV. THE DATE

A. The book of Acts was written about 63 A.D.

1. History shows that Festus was sent to Judea when Felix was recalled in the year 60 A.D.
2. Paul’s arrest had been 2 years previous to this—about the time of Pentecost (58 A.D.).
3. It appears that Paul sailed for Rome not long after Festus had taken over in Judea, perhaps in the Fall of 60 A.D.

B. The date of 63 A.D. is also arrived at by noting the abrupt ending to the book.

1. At the end of the record a question comes to mind: “What was the result of Paul’s appeal to Caesar?”

2. If such had already occurred it would be inconceivable that Luke would not have recorded the results.
 3. Therefore, the conclusion is drawn that Luke wrote the book while in Rome with Paul awaiting the outcome of his trial, and that he (Luke) brought his record to a close after two years of waiting for the final verdict.
- B. A later date than 63 A.D. would have Paul appealing to Nero, a tormenter of Christians; a situation that is highly unlikely.
- C. Since there is no reference to the Jewish wars of 66-70 A.D. and the fall of Jerusalem, it is unlikely that it was written during or after that time.

II. THE PURPOSE

- A. In determining the purpose for the writing of “Acts” it is important to distinguish between *what* information was recorded and *why* it was recorded.
1. Its purpose is missed if only to provide a history of the origin, development and growth of the New Testament church.
 2. It was not intended to be a complete historical record.
- B. It was written because of the immediate and pressing needs of the saints at that time.
1. The early Christians needed an authoritative and reliable account of the work of the apostles.
 2. They needed to “see” for themselves the tremendous growth of the spiritual kingdom of God and its influence in the world.
- C. Its purpose becomes clear when connected with the “gospels”.
1. Compare Luke 24:36-53 – Acts 1:1-11.
 2. It shows men actually fulfilling of the “Great Commission”.
 - a. We see *how* people may turn or be converted to Christ.
 - b. We learn that salvation is for all of every nation and for all time to come.
- D. Another great purpose was to show power and plan of God.
1. It opens by relating the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles (according to a promise Jesus made in Acts 1:4-8).
 2. The Holy Spirit guided the apostles in their work.

3. Therefore, the truth of this record is twice confirmed: first, when the Holy Spirit guided the work of the apostles; and secondly, when the Holy Spirit guided Luke to record their work.
4. It shows the realities of persecution directed toward those who “live godly in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim 3:12).
5. It declares the faithfulness of God to keep His promise to set up a spiritual kingdom that included people of every nation (Isa 2:1-4; Dan 2:44).
6. It describes the worship of the New Testament church (Acts 2:42, 20:7).
7. It shows the church at work in evangelism, edification through teaching, and benevolence; and *how* that work is to be done.

E. To sum up the purpose of “Acts”:

1. It stands as a grand presentation for all people of all time as to *why* they need the salvation that God offers to them.
2. It clearly shows *how* one may be saved.
3. It depicts all those who are faithful to God, and to His Son Jesus Christ, as being united together in one spiritual body called the *church*: purchased by His blood and ruled by His authority (Acts 20:28; Eph 1:22).

Acts of the Apostles

Part One: The Witness in Jerusalem (1:1-8:3)

I.	The Promise of the Holy Spirit's Power	1:1-2:47
A.	Introduction to Acts	1:1-3
B.	Appearances of the Resurrected Christ	1:4-8
C.	Ascension of Christ	1:9-11
D.	Anticipation of the Holy Spirit	1:12-14
E.	Appointment of Matthias	1:15-26
F.	Apostles being filled with the Holy Spirit	2:1-4
G.	Speaking with Other Tongues	2:5-13
H.	Peter Preaches the Gospel of Christ	2:14-39
II.	The Joy and Unity of the Early Church	2:40-47
III.	The Progress of the Church	3:1-8:3
A.	Peter Heals the Lame Man	3:1-10
B.	Peter's Second Sermon	3:11-26
C.	Peter and John Are Arrested	4:1-4
D.	Peter Preaches to the Jewish Sanhedrin	4:5-12
E.	Sanhedrin Commands Not to Preach	4:13-22
F.	Apostles' Prayer for Boldness	4:23-31
G.	Early Church Voluntarily Shares	4:32-37
H.	Ananias and Sapphira Lie	5:1-11
I.	Apostles' Mighty Miracles	5:12-16
J.	Apostles' Persecution	5:17-42
K.	Deacons Are Appointed	6:1-7
L.	Stephen is Martyred	6:8-7:60
M.	Saul Persecutes the Church	8:1-3

Part Two: Preaching in Judea and Samaria (8:4-12:25)

I.	The Preaching of Philip	8:4-40
A.	Philip Preaches to the Samaritans	8:4-25
B.	Philip Preaches to the Ethiopian	8:26-40
II.	The Conversion of Saul	9:1-31
A.	Saul is Blinded and Hears the Lord	9:1-9
B.	Ananias Instructs Paul	9:10-19
C.	Saul Preaches at Damascus	9:20-22
D.	Saul Returns to Jerusalem	9:23-31
III.	The Preaching of Peter	9:32-11:18
A.	Peter Heals Aeneas at Lydda	9:32-35
B.	Peter Raises Dorcas at Joppa	9:36-43
C.	Peter Preaches to Cornelius at Caesarea	10:1-11:18
IV.	The Work of the Early Church	11:19-12:24
A.	The Work of the Antioch Church	11:19-30
B.	The Persecution by Herod	12:1-24

Part Three: Preaching to the End of the Earth (12:25-28:31)

I.	The First Missionary Journey	12:25-14:28
A.	Barnabas and Saul are Sent from Antioch	12:25-13:3
B.	Ministry at Cyprus	13:4-12
C.	Ministry at Antioch	13:13-50
D.	Ministry at Iconium	13:51-14:5
E.	Ministry at Lystra	14:6-20
F.	Ministry on the Return Trip	14:21-25
G.	Report on the First Missionary Journey	14:26-28
II.	The Jerusalem Council	15:1-35
A.	Debate over Gentiles Keeping the Law	15:1-5
B.	Peter's case	15:6-11
C.	Paul and Barnabas Testify	15:12
D.	James Proves Gentiles Are Free from the Law	15:13-21
E.	The Council Sends an Official Letter	15:22-29
F.	Report to Antioch	15:30-35
III.	The Second Missionary Journey	15:36-18:22
A.	Disagreement over John Mark	15:36-41
B.	Derbe and Lystra: Timothy is Circumcised	16:1-5
C.	Troas: Macedonian Call	16:6-10
D.	Philippi: Extensive Ministry	16:11-40
E.	Thessalonica: "Turn the World Upside Down"	17:1-9
F.	Berea: Many Receive the Word	17:10-15
G.	Athens: Paul's Sermon in the Areopagus	17:16-34
H.	Corinth: One-and-a-half Years of Preaching	18:1-17
I.	Return Trip to Antioch	18:18-22
IV.	The Third Missionary Journey	18:23-21:14
A.	Galatia and Phrygia: Strengthening the Disc.	18:23
B.	Ephesus: Three Years of Preaching	18:24-19:41
C.	Macedonia: Three Months of Preaching	20:1-6
D.	Troas: Eutychus Falls from Loft	20:7-12
E.	Miletus: Paul Bids Farewell to Ephesian Elders	20:13-38
F.	Tyre: Paul is Warned about Jerusalem	21:1-6
G.	Caesarea: Agabus' Prediction	21:7-14
V.	The Trip to Rome	21:15-28:31
A.	Paul in Jerusalem	21:15-23:33
B.	Paul in Caesarea	23:34-26:32
C.	Paul in Rome	27:1-28:31

Proof of the resurrection and a final charge to the apostles, 1:1-5

- 1 What commandment did Jesus give the apostles?
- 2 What are infallible proofs?
- 3 What topic did He discuss with them 40 days?
- 4 Call to mind Old Testament prophecies to which Jesus may have referred...
- 5 What was the "Promise of the Father"?
- 6 Was it a promise to all disciples?

Questions about the kingdom, 1:6-8

- 7 What did the apostles fail to understand about the kingdom?
- 8 Why didn't Jesus answer all of their questions at that time?

Jesus Ascends to Heaven, 1:9-11

- 9 What does the enveloping cloud suggest?

The upper room, 1:12-14

- 10 Where did the ascension take place?
- 11 Compare the lists of the apostle's names (Matt 10:2-4; Mk 3:16-19; Lk 6:14-16; Acts 1:13) – "Thaddeus" in Matthew & Mark is "Judas of James" in Luke & Acts.

Matthias replaces Judas, 1:15-26

- 12 How did Peter know to apply (Psa 69:25; 109:8) to Judas and his successor?
- 13 Why was it important to appoint a replacement?
- 14 What qualifications did it require?
- 15 How many, of the 120 disciples, met the requirements?
- 16 What method was used to make the selection? Was that method used before by the Israelites? Who truly made the choice?
- 17 Do we have Biblical authority for apostolic succession today? Is there a need?

The coming of the Holy Spirit, the Father's promise to the apostles, 2:1-13

- 1 What is "Pentecost"?
- 2 Who was "filled with the Holy Spirit"? (1:26; 2:7, 14)
- 3 What does sound & fire symbolize in these OT passages (Exo 3:2ff; 19:16-19)?
- 4 What did He (the Holy Spirit) enable them to do? (1:6, 8, 11)
- 5 How many nations were represented?

An explanation by Peter of the sights and sounds, 2:14-21

- 6 How did Peter answer the mockers?
- 7 When did the "last days" begin? (Isa 2:2; 1 Cor 10:11; Heb 1:2, 9:26; 1 Pet 1:10-12, 20)
- 8 Who would benefit from the outpouring of God's Spirit? (2:17-18, 21, 39; Isa 2:2-4; Acts 10:44-47)
- 9 What was the benefit of the outpouring of God's Spirit?
- 10 Discuss the symbolic references in (1:19-20). (Lk 23:44-45; Matt 24:29; Isa 13:10; 34:4)

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is proclaimed, 2:22-24

- 1 What is the contrast between God and the Jews with respect to Jesus?

Christ's resurrection prophesied and witnessed, 2:25-32

- 2 Who was the prophet to whom Peter refers?
- 3 How did Peter prove that David was not talking about his own resurrection?
- 4 What happened to the body and spirit of Jesus at His death?

Christ exalted at God's right hand, 2:33-35

- 5 What did the Jews "see and hear" that day which confirmed Peter's use of Joel?

The conclusion to the evidence, 2:36

- 6 Define the terms "Lord and Christ."

The apostles use the keys to open the door to the kingdom of Christ, 2:37-41

- 7 Discuss Jn 16:8 in view of the people's reaction.
- 8 What were they instructed to do and what was the promise?
- 9 Were there good results on that day?

A portrait of a joyful and unified church, 2:42-47

- 10 Make a list of their actions of worship and service.
- 11 Who was doing "many wonders and signs"? What was the result?

The healing of a man born lame, 3:1-10

- 1 Why were Peter and John still observing some Jewish customs in the Temple?
- 2 Reconcile the lame man's request for alms with Acts 2:45.
- 3 Contrast this miracle with the claims of so-called healers today.
- 4 Why was this man healed?

Peter's explanation of the miracle, 3:11-16

- 5 What misconception did Peter first seek to dispel?
- 6 Discuss Peter's use of the word "Servant." (Matt 12:18; Isa 42:1ff; 52:13-53:12)
- 7 How were these Jews responsible for Jesus' death?
- 8 What two proofs did Peter have of God raising Jesus from the dead?
- 9 Whose faith healed the man? (3:6, 16)

The "good news" proclaimed, 3:17-26

- 10 Did ignorance relieve them of responsibility for their sins?
- 11 What were the conditions of God's mercy?
- 12 Discuss the meaning of these phrases:

"times of refreshing" —

"times of restoration of all things" —

Peter and John arrested, 4:1-4

- 1 Why did the apostles' preaching disturb the Sadducees? (Matt 22:23)

Peter and John before the Sanhedrin council, 4:5-12

- 2 What Scripture was fulfilled by the attitude of the Council?
- 3 How did Peter tie together the healing of the lame man and salvation?

The apostles threatened and released, 4:13-22

- 4 In view of the facts, why did the Council threaten Peter and John?
- 5 How did Peter and John respond to their threats?
- 6 What prevented the Council from scourging them at this time?

The apostles pray for boldness, 4:23-31

- 7 What Scripture did they apply to this situation?
- 8 What was their request? For what did they NOT ask?
- 9 How did God answer their prayer?

A second portrait of a unified church, 4:32-37

- 10 What effect did unity have upon the success of the apostles' witness?
- 11 Of what does Luke use Barnabas for an example?

Ananias and Sapphira, 5:1-10

- 1 Is there a contrast presented between Barnabas and this husband and wife?
- 2 What was their plan?
- 3 Why did they plan?
- 4 What were their sins?
- 5 Why are they rebuked for something Satan had done (5:3)?
- 6 If they had not been exposed, how would this have adversely affected the apostles' witness?

The benefits of discipline, 5:11-16

- 7 What effect did their deaths have on those inside and outside of Christ?
- 8 What other factor is mentioned as contributing to the number of believers?

The apostles arrested and liberated, 5:17-42

- 9 What motivated the ruling Jews to again arrest the apostles?
- 10 What basic argument did Gamaliel present to the Council that prevented the Sadducees from carrying out their intention to put the apostles to death?
- 11 What attitude did the apostles have toward suffering for the right cause?

Seven men chosen to serve, 6:1-6

- 1 Who were the “Hebrews” and “Hellenists” or “Grecians”?
- 2 What was the cause of tension between them and who determined a solution?
- 3 What means brought about the growth in number of the disciples?

Stephen accused of blasphemy, 6:8-15

- 4 Compare Stephen’s service to the service of a deacon. (1 Tim 3:8-13)
- 5 Who disputed with him to no avail?
- 6 What actions did his opponents take?

Stephen’s defense, 7:1-53

- 7 Outline Stephen’s speech:
 - 7:2-8
 - 7:9-16
 - 7:17-36
 - 7:37-43
 - 7:44-50
- 8 In his stinging rebuke of (7:51-53), what do we learn about the work of the Holy Spirit? In what way do people resist Him?

Stephen is put to death, 7:54-60

- 9 How did Stephen manifest the spirit of the Lord?
- 10 Who is introduced in connection with this resistance to the gospel?

A great persecution, 8:1-4

- 1 Which Jewish sect became more involved in opposing the gospel?
- 2 What effect does opposition have upon faithfulness?

Phillip preaches Christ in Samaria, 8:5-25

- 3 Identify three things included in “preaching Christ” to the Samaritans.
- 4 What motivated the people to obey, and what was the result?
- 5 What was the spiritual climate in Samaria before Phillip arrived?
- 6 Why did the apostles in Jerusalem send Peter and John to Samaria?
- 7 What did Simon “see” (come to understand)?
- 8 What was Simon’s sin and what was he commanded to do about it?

Phillip preaches to a man of Ethiopia, 8:26-40

- 9 Discuss the roles of the following in this example of conversion:
The angel —

The evangelist (Phillip) —

The Holy Spirit —
- 10 How many times is the word “preached” or “preaching” used in this chapter, and what resulted from this action?

Jesus speaks to Saul on the Damascus road, 9:1-9

- 1 Give details of Saul's life before his conversion.
(Acts 22:3-5; Acts 26:3-5, 9-11; Gal 1:13-14; Phil 3:4-7; 1 Tim 1:12-17)

- 2 What terms are used in reference to Christians in the following verses?
(Acts 8:1, 3; Acts 9:1, 2, 13, 14, 21; Acts 22:19; 26:10)

- 3 How was Saul guilty of persecuting Christ?

- 4 Against what "gods" was Saul kicking?

- 5 Was Saul fully converted to Christ and saved on the road to Damascus?

- 6 Why did the Lord appear to Saul? (1 Cor 9:1; 15:7-8; Acts 26:16-18)

Ananias is sent to Saul, 9:10-19

- 7 What was Saul doing at the house of Judas? What does it indicate?

- 8 Why was Ananias sent to Saul?

- 9 Was Saul already aware of his mission? (26:16-18; 22:12-15)

- 10 At what point was Saul saved from his sins? (9:18; 22:16)

Saul preaches Christ, 9:20-25

- 1 What light does the following passage give to our text? (Gal 1:15-20)
- 2 Who was involved in the plot against Saul? (2 Cor 11:32-33)

Saul at Jerusalem, 9:26-30

- 3 Explain the phrase, "Saul...tried to join the disciples" (9:26).
- 4 What must be established before saints can have "fellowship" with one another?
- 5 According to the reading in Galatians, to whom was Saul introduced?
- 6 Was Saul vacationing in Jerusalem?

The Church prospers, 9:31

- 7 What five words or phrases are used to describe the church at this time?

Peter's work at Lydda and Joppa, 9:32-43

- 8 What brought Peter to Lydda? What had he been doing?
- 9 Who brought Peter to Joppa and why?
- 10 What did the miracles in Lydda and Joppa accomplish? (35, 42)
- 11 Since preaching the gospel of Christ must accompany a miracle before conversion to the Lord is possible, who was doing the preaching?

The visions of Cornelius and Peter, 10:1-8; 10:9-16

- 1 Why did the angel of God appear to Cornelius? (10:6; 11:14)
- 2 How could a man like Cornelius be lost? (Rom 3:9-12, 23; Gal 2:21; Acts 4:12)
- 3 Why was it necessary for Peter to have this vision?

The messengers arrive from Cornelius, 10:17-23

- 4 What was Peter doing when the messengers arrived?
- 5 Who, and how many, accompanied Peter from Joppa to Caesarea? (11:11-12)

Peter meets Cornelius, 10:24-33

- 6 Did Peter fully know the reason he was sent? When did that change?

Peter preaches to the Gentiles, 10:34-43

- 7 Is Cornelius aware of the “facts” of the gospel?
- 8 When was “Jesus of Nazareth...anointed...with the Holy Spirit”?

The Holy Spirit falls on the Gentiles, 10:44-48

- 9 Did Cornelius and his family receive Holy Spirit baptism? (11:15-16; 15:7-9)
- 10 What conclusion did Peter draw from this incident?
 - a. Who was Peter speaking to in verse 47?
 - b. Make the connection between 10:48 and 11:14.

At Jerusalem Peter defends his conduct, 11:1-18

- 11 Who in Jerusalem took exception of Peter’s actions in Caesarea?
- 12 How did Peter defend his conduct?
- 13 How does God make known His will to us today? (Jn 20:30-31; 1 Cor 4:6)

Antioch, the first Gentile church, 11:19-26

- 1 What bold new steps were being taken in preaching the gospel?
- 2 Explain these phrases:
“preaching the word” (v.19) “the grace of God” (v.23)
“preaching the Lord Jesus” (v.20) “purpose of heart” (v.23)
“the hand of the Lord” (v.21) “continue with the Lord” (v.23)
“turned to the Lord” (v.21) “added to the Lord” (v.24)
- 3 What two men become co-laborers in the gospel?
- 4 Is the name “Christian” of Heaven or of men? (Acts 11:26; 26:28; 1 Pet 4:16)

Relief sent to the brethren in Judea, 11:27-30

- 5 To whom were the relief funds sent?

Herod Agrippa persecutes the church, 12:1-19

- 6 When Peter was arrested, why was he not immediately killed as was James?
- 7 Why were such extensive precautions taken to secure Peter in prison?
- 8 Can you reconcile these verses: 12:5 and 12:16?
- 9 How did Herod react to this situation?

Herod’s violent death, 12:20-24

- 10 What reason is given for the manner of Herod’s death?
- 11 What effect did His death have on the spread of the gospel?

Barnabas and Saul return to Antioch, 12:25

- 12 Does this verse necessarily imply that the relief funds were given to the elders of the Jerusalem church for dispensing? (11:29-30)

The appointment of Barnabas and Saul (1st missionary journey), 13:1-3

- 1 What is significant about the names of the prophets and teachers in Antioch?
- 2 What can be learned about how the Holy Spirit worked in the early church?

Preaching on the island of Cyprus, 13:4-12

- 3 Who accompanied Barnabas and Saul? Why is that significant?
- 4 Contrast the attitudes of Bar-Jesus (Elymas) and Sergius Paulus (proconsul).
- 5 The message Paul preached is described in four ways (7-12), list below.

Paul's address at Antioch of Pisidia, 13:13-43

- 6 Compare (11:30; 12:25; 13:2, 7) with (13:43, 46, 50). See also (14:14).
- 7 What happened at Perga in Pamphilia? Why is this significant? (15:36-41)
- 8 What two groups did Paul address in the synagogue? (13:16, 26)
- 9 Make an outline Paul's message.

- 10 Describe the blessing and the warning at the end of Paul's message.

Rejected by the Jews, they turn to the Gentiles, 13:42-52

1 What provoked the Jews to oppose the preaching of Paul and Barnabas?

2 Explain the Jews failure to perform their special duty for God?

3 Explain the following statements:

Paul said of the Jews who disbelieved,
“You judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life” –

Luke described the Gentiles who believed
“as hav(ing) been appointed to eternal life” –

Events at Iconium, 14:1-7

4 In what two ways did the people of Iconium (Jews/Gentiles) react to the gospel?

Events at Lystra, 14:8-21a

5 Why didn't Paul and Barnabas preach in Lystra's synagogue? (Thought ?)

6 Who were Zeus and Hermes? (Use a commentary)

7 How did God reveal Himself to the Gentiles? (15-17)

8 Who is among the disciples at Lystra? (Acts16:1-3)

9 How is the gospel received in Derbe?

Return to Antioch of Syria, 14:21-28

10 Trace the steps of Paul and Barnabas from Derbe back to Antioch of Syria.

11 Discuss what they did along the way, and when they arrived at Antioch.

In Antioch, conflict over circumcision, 15:1-3

- 1 What was the significance of circumcision for a Jew? (Gen 17:10-14; Exo 12:43-49; Josh 5:2-9; Lev 12:3; Jn 7:22)

The issue considered by the apostles and elders, 15:4-21

- 2 What was the basis of Peter's argument?
- 3 What effect did Peter's speech have on the opposition?
- 4 How did Barnabas and Paul support Peter's conclusion?
- 5 Explain the method James used to summarize the previous speeches?
- 6 What does he propose as a resolution?
- 7 Find the Direct statements (commands) of God – Approved Apostolic examples – Essential conclusions (necessary inferences), that settled this case.

The letter to the Gentile churches, 15:22-29

- 8 What was the purpose of the letter sent out by the apostles, elders & brethren?
- 9 This conference is sometimes cited as a precedent for "conferences of churches." What did this council have that could not be duplicated? (15:22, 28; Matt 18:1, 18-20; Matt 19:28).

Return to Antioch, 15:30-35

- 10 What effect did the letter have on the brethren in Antioch?

Paul's second missionary journey — Paul and Barnabas separate, 15:36-41

- 1 How did the personalities of Paul and Barnabas contribute to their dispute?
- 2 Did Paul lack a sympathetic and forgiving spirit? (2 Tim 4:11; Philemon 24)
- 3 What service did Paul and Silas perform on this tour? (15:41; 16:4)

Visiting the churches of Galatia, 16:1-5

- 4 What do the following verses tell us about Timothy?
2 Tim 1:5 (Acts 16:1); 2 Tim 3:15 —
1 Tim 1:18; 1 Tim 4:14 (2 Tim 1:6) —
Acts 14:19-20 —
- 5 Why was Timothy circumcised and not Titus? (1 Cor 9:19-22; Gal 2:1-5)

The Macedonian call, 16:6-10

- 6 Who joined Paul, Timothy and Silas at Troas? What was his main service?

Conversion of Lydia and her household, 16:11-15

- 7 By what means did the Lord open the heart of Lydia? (Acts 16:17-18)
- 8 Does the word "household" in vs. 15 necessarily imply infants were baptized?
- 9 Upon what basis did Lydia invite Paul and his company to stay at her house?

Conversion of the Jailor, 16:16-40

- 10 The reason for their arrest is obvious, but what were the charges?
- 11 Explain why the Jailor was willing to hear and receive the gospel?
- 12 What is entailed in the statement "having believed in God with all his household" (16:34)?
- 13 What was the motive for Paul's conduct toward the magistrates? (1 Thess 2:1-4)
- 14 What did Paul and Silas do before leaving Philippi?

Preaching the gospel of Christ in Thessalonica, 17:1-9

- 1 What two points did Paul try to establish when preaching in Jewish synagogues?
- 2 List the three groups persuaded to believe the gospel?
- 3 Identify the first complaint leveled against the disciples by the envious Jews?
- 4 What gospel fact was distorted and used against Paul?
- 5 Why was security taken from “Jason and the rest (i.e., some brethren)”?

Preaching Christ in Berea, 17:10-15

- 6 What evidence is there of “noble...fair-minded” Jews in Berea? (Application)
- 7 What class of people is added to the list of disciples? (Compare to question #2)
- 8 Who traveled with Paul to Berea? Where was Luke?
- 9 How did the disciples in Berea prove their faith in the gospel?

Paul takes the message of Christ to Athens, 17:16-34

- 10 What did Paul observe in Athens and how did he react? (Application)
- 11 In what two places did he try to reason with the people?
- 12 How did the philosophers aid Paul in speaking to a wider audience? (Find some information on the Epicurean and Stoic philosophies).
- 13 How does Paul establish common ground upon which to begin preaching?
- 14 Outline the contents of Paul’s sermon.
- 15 Describe three reactions to Paul’s speech?

Paul arrives at Corinth, 18:1-4

- 1 Do we know if Aquila and Priscilla were Christians when Paul met them?
- 2 How did Paul meet his daily needs while in Corinth? (1 Cor 4:12; 9:1-18; 2 Cor 11:7-9)

Eighteen months in Corinth, 18:5-17

- 3 Why did the arrival of Silas and Timothy help Paul's preaching work? (2 Cor 11:9; Phil 4:15-16; Note: likely the occasion for writing 1st Thessalonians - Acts 17:15-16; 1 Thess 3:1-10)
- 4 What did Paul mean by his statement to the opposing Jews in verse six?
- 5 Who were the first converts at Corinth? (1 Cor 16:15)
- 6 Who was Justus?

...Crispus?

...Gallio?

...Sosthenes?
- 7 Explain the reason Paul did not flee Corinth in the face of such heavy opposition?

Paul returns to Antioch of Syria, 18:18-22

- 8 What do we know of Paul's vow in Cenchrea?
- 9 Explain the reasons Paul could not stay with Priscilla and Aquila in Ephesus.
- 10 What church did Paul salute? (18:22)

Paul's begins third tour — Apollos is instructed, 18:23-28

- 1 What route did Paul take back to Ephesus?
- 2 Discuss the method used by Aquila and Priscilla to correct Apollos.
- 3 Describe the work of Apollos in Achaia and his affect on some saints. (1 Cor 3:4-6)

Paul finds some disciples in Ephesus, 19:1-7

- 4 What did these disciples believe?
- 5 In what way was their faith imperfect?
- 6 How was their second baptism different from their first baptism?
- 7 When, and by what means, did the Holy Spirit come upon them? (8:14-19)

Paul's work in Ephesus, 19:8-20

- 8 What caused a change in Paul's work there, and what were the results?
- 9 By what means were miracles performed by Paul?
- 10 Why did the seven sons of Sceva fail in their attempt to cast out evil spirits in the name of Jesus?
- 11 What was the purpose of miracles? What was the effect of demonstrating the difference between real and pretended miracles? (19:17-20; Mark 16:20)

Paul makes his travel plans from Ephesus, 19:21-22

- 1 What Epistle did Paul write from Ephesus? (1 Cor 16:8-9)
- 2 What did he do in anticipation of his plans?
- 3 Apart from Paul's desire to see the saints in Macedonia/Achaia, why did he go?
- 4 In the Roman epistle, written from Corinth on his third tour, what does Paul say about the plans announced in these two verses? (Rom 1:8-15; 15:22-29)
- 5 How long did Paul stay in Ephesus? (Compare 20:31 with 19:8, 10, 22)

Demetrius, a silversmith, causes a great commotion, 19:23-41

- 6 What three complaints did Demetrius have against Paul's preaching?
- 7 What caused the crowd to start gathering?
- 8 Why did the crowd single out Gaius and Aristarchus as objects of their rage?
- 9 How does Paul describe the seriousness of this situation to the Corinthians? (2 Cor 1:8-11)
- 10 What sort of "defense" did the Jews want Alexander to make?
- 11 Outline the speech of the city clerk that calmed the mob.

Paul's travels in Macedonia and Greece, 20:1-6

- 1 Luke did not mention Paul preaching in Troas. Discuss those circumstances as Paul related in these verses. (2 Cor 2:12-13; 7:5-7)
- 2 What light does Romans 15:19 shed on Paul's travels in Macedonia?
- 3 Which church did Paul likely contact during his three months in Greece (Corinth of Achaia)? (Rom 16:1, 23; 1 Cor 1:14)
- 4 Who quietly announced his presence with Paul at Philippi?

Meeting with the church at Troas, 20:7-12

- 5 Is the breaking of bread in vs. 7 the same as that in vs.11?
- 6 What purpose did the raising of Eutychus serve?

The journey from Troas to Miletus, 20:13-16

Paul's address to the Ephesian elders at Miletus, 20:17-38

- 7 Provide a summary of these sections of Paul's speech.
 - ⇒ 20:18-21
 - ⇒ 20:22-24
 - ⇒ 20:25-31
 - ⇒ 20:32-35
- 8 Describe the scene of Paul's departure.

The trip to Jerusalem, 21:1-16

- 1 How much time did Paul have to reach Jerusalem? (Cf. 20:6, 16)
- 2 Where did Paul and his companions change ships?
- 3 In what port cities did they find disciples?
- 4 Did Paul disobey the Holy Spirit by going to Jerusalem? (Cf. 21:4 20:22-24)
- 5 List reasons why the Holy Spirit used women (like Philip's daughters) in prophetic roles. What was their only limitation? (1 Cor 14:33-35 1 Tim 2:11-12)
- 6 What were the circumstances when Luke first introduced us to Agabus?

Paul participates in a Jewish custom, 21:17-26

- 7 Who was present when Paul made his first report in Jerusalem?
- 8 Explain the problem Paul faced of being misunderstood?
- 9 What recommendation did they make to Paul?
- 10 Did Paul sin by consenting to "keep the law (of Moses)" on this one point?

Paul arrested and charged in the Temple, 21:26-36

- 1 WHO stirred up the crowd against Paul?
- 2 WHAT charges did they make?
- 3 WHAT evidence against him did they presume to have?
- 4 WHO rescued him from the mob?

Paul requests permission to speak to the mob, 21:37-40

- 5 The commander had mistaken Paul for whom? What caused him to question his assumption?

Paul's defense, 22:1-21

- 6 Tell why the disorderly mob allowed Paul to speak to them?
- 7 Paul's speech can be divided into three sections, what is the main point in each?
22:3-5 —

22:6-16 —

22:17-21 —

Paul reveals his Roman citizenship, 22:22-29

- 8 Give the reason for the mob's reaction to Paul's speech.
- 9 Describe the meaning and purpose of being "examined under scourging."
- 10 How did Paul escape the scourging?

Paul's accusers are divided, 22:30 - 23:10

- 1 Who called this meeting of the Sanhedrin and for what purpose?
- 2 Why do you suppose the Spirit directed Paul to begin his speech as he did? (Matt 10:16-20; Acts 23:1)
- 3 Why did the high priest command Paul to be struck?
- 4 Explain these statements of Paul to the high priest and the bystanders:
"God will strike you, whitewashed wall!" (Ezek 13:10-16; Matt 23:27-28)

"You sit to judge me according to the law, and...command me to be struck contrary to the law?" (Deut 25:1-2 Jn 7:51)

"I did not know, brethren, that he was the high priest; for it is written..." (Exo 22:28)
- 5 Explain how Paul changed his tactics and what effect it had upon the meeting.

Encouragement from the Lord and the plot to kill Paul, 23:11-24

- 6 Describe the plot against Paul's life. How did the commander find out about it, and what did he do about it?

Paul is sent to Felix the Governor in Caesarea, 23:25-35

- 7 Is the commander entirely truthful in his letter to the governor?
- 8 What precautions were taken to secure Paul's safe passage to Caesarea?

Paul appears before Felix the Governor, 24:1-23

- 1 What specific charges were brought against Paul?
- 2 Discuss the method of presentation by Tertullus, and the order of the charges.
- 3 Why is the phrase “sect of the Nazarenes” an unfitting description of Christians? (Acts 5:17; 15:5; 26:5)
- 4 How did Tertullus misrepresent the actions of commander Lysias?
- 5 Why was Paul happy to present his own defense before Felix?
- 6 Summarize Paul’s response to each accusation:

Vs. 11-13 —

Vs. 14-16 —

Vs. 17-21 —
- 7 What did Paul state as the real reason for his being sent to Felix?
- 8 Are we to assume from vs.17 that Paul distributed alms to the general populace? (Rom 15:25-27; 1 Cor 16:1-2; 2 Cor 8 & 9)
- 9 What explanation did Luke offer for why Felix did not pronounce an immediate verdict?

Paul preaches to Felix and Drusilla, 24:24-27

- 10 Discuss Paul’s message and the response of Felix.
- 11 Where did Felix get the idea that Paul had anyone with money backing him.

Paul appeals to Caesar, 25:1-12

- 1 How long had Paul been “detained” in Caesarea?
- 2 Why did Festus dismiss the request of the Jewish leaders?
- 3 What made him change his mind later? (25:9, 20)
- 4 What if Paul had not appealed to Caesar?
- 5 With what council did Festus confer about Paul’s appeal to Caesar?
- 6 Who was the Roman Caesar at that time? (25:21, 25 -- use commentary)

Festus consults with Herod Agrippa II and Paul is brought to Him, 25:13-27

- 7 How did Festus summarize Paul’s case to Agrippa?
- 8 Why would Festus seek the counsel of Agrippa? (25:26)
- 9 Festus was hoping Agrippa could help him solve what problem?
- 10 Describe the setting of Paul’s defense.

Paul's defense before King Agrippa, 26:1-23

1 Comment on the following parts of Paul's speech?

26:1-3 —

26:4-5 —

26:6-8 —

26:9-11 —

26:12-18 —

26:19-23 —

2 Compare Paul's commission to that of Jeremiah and Ezekiel. (Jer 1:7-8; Ezek 2:1-3)

3 How did Paul's mission compare to that prophesied of Christ? (Isa 42:6-7)

King Agrippa shuns Paul's challenge, 26:24-32

4 Why did Festus react as he did to Paul's speech? (24)

5 Why did Paul look to Agrippa for confirmation of his words? (25-27)

6 How do you read and understand Agrippa's response to Paul? (28)

7 Explain Paul's final statement to the court. (29)

Paul's voyage to Rome, from Caesarea to Crete, 27:1-8

- 1 Who are Paul's companions on this voyage?
- 2 Trace the route taken and the difficulties they met.

Paul's warnings ignored, 27:9-12 — a storm at sea, 27:13-26

- 3 Explain why sailing at this particular time of year was dangerous.
- 4 To what "Fast" does Luke refer? (Lev 23:26-32)
- 5 Was Paul speaking by inspiration or experience in verse 10? (2 Cor 11:25)
- 6 Why did they lose all hope when the sun and stars were blocked from view?
- 7 How did Paul use the angel's message to ease the minds of those on board?

Shipwrecked at Malta, 27:27-44

- 8 Explain Paul's statement in verse 31 in context. Is there an application for us?
- 9 What actions were taken to save the ship?
- 10 What encouragement did Paul give the passengers?
- 11 How many of them were lost at sea? How many of them were saved?

Paul and ship's passengers escape to Malta (Melita), 28:1-10

- 1 In what ways did the natives interpret Paul's viper bite and the aftereffect?
- 2 Explain the true reason the viper bite had no effect on Paul? (Mk 16:17-20)
- 3 Do we know if Paul preached the gospel of Christ on this island? (Heb 2:1-4)

The final leg of Paul's voyage to Rome, 28:11-15

- 4 How long did Paul remain on Malta?
- 5 Describe the voyage and journey to Rome.

Paul's ministry in Rome, 28:16-31

- 6 Describe the nature of Paul's imprisonment at Rome.
- 7 What was the purpose of Paul's first meeting with the Jewish leaders in Rome?
- 8 What was the purpose of his second meeting with them?
- 9 How did the gospel serve as a sharp two-edged sword? (Matt 10:34; Heb 4:12)
- 10 What bearing did Paul's reference to Isaiah have on this occasion?
- 11 Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon were Paul's prison epistles. What results of his work in a Roman prison does Paul report? (Phil 1:12-18; 4:21-22; Philemon 10)
- 12 What information does Paul supply in the following references? (Eph 4:1; 6:21-22; Phil 1:3-8; 4:10-14, 17-18 (2:19-30); Col 4:1-15; Philemon 23-24)

ACTS IN REVIEW

Acts Chapter 1	Jesus' work on earth is done
Acts Chapter 2	Peter baptized a crew
Acts Chapter 3	A beggar's plea
Acts Chapter 4	A jailhouse door
Acts Chapter 5	Ananias & Sapphira lose their lives
Acts Chapter 6	The widows' fix
Acts Chapter 7	Stephen looks up into heaven
Acts Chapter 8	Simon the great, the Jewish hate, and the Ethiopian eunuch just can't wait
Acts Chapter 9	Saul ceases to dine
Acts Chapter 10	The Gentiles come in
Acts Chapter 10+1	Peter's re-run
Acts Chapter 10+2	Herod goes cuckoo
Acts Chapter 10+3	Paul's first preaching journey
Acts Chapter 10+4	Preaching more
Acts Chapter 10+5	Paul & Barnabas arrive
Acts Chapter 10+6	Paul & Silas in sticks (play on word "stocks")
Acts Chapter 10+7	Paul preaches resurrection
Acts Chapter 10+8	Another preaching date
Acts Chapter 10+9	Demetrius' shrine
Acts Chapter 20	Paul preaches plenty
Acts Chapter 21	Paul's 3rd tour is done & Paul's life is won
Acts Chapter 22	Paul's conversion stated anew
Acts Chapter 23	Paul before the big "C" (council)
Acts Chapter 24	Tertullus takes the floor
Acts Chapter 25	Festus leaves Paul alive
Acts Chapter 26	Agrippa says nix
Acts Chapter 27	An angel's message from heaven
Acts Chapter 28	Paul enters Rome's gate