

ACTS

1. TITLES:

- A. The Acts of the Apostles
- B. The Book of The Holy Spirit

2. AUTHOR:

Written by Luke, a physician, who was a companion of Paul and also wrote the Gospel bearing his name.

3. DATE:

- A. Covers approximately 33 years from the Ascension of Christ to the time when Paul had been a prisoner in Rome for two years.
- B. Probably written between 61 and 65 A.D.

4. KEY WORDS:

- A. Jew (ess, s) – 81
- B. Spirit, Holy Ghost – 54
- C. Gentiles, nations (same Greek word) – 44
- D. Word (of God) – 40
- E. Name (of Jesus, Lord) – 37
- F. Pray (ed, er, ers, eth, ing) – 35

5. KEY VERSES: 1:8

6. PURPOSE:

- A. To record Christ's continued ministry from heaven of all that He began to do and teach on earth (1:1).
- B. To give a panoramic view of the birth, formation, and development of the early church.
- C. To show the pattern by which Christ builds His church.

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7. MESSAGE:

- A. The church, as the body of Christ, cannot function apart from the ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- B. Only by the power of the Holy Spirit can the great commission be fulfilled (Zechariah 4:6).

8. OUTLINE:

- I. The Ministry of Peter --- to the Jews ----- Circumcision Ch. 1-12
Jerusalem/Judea/Samaria
- II. The Ministry of Paul --- to the Gentiles ----- Uncircumcision Ch. 13-28
Uttermost Parts of the Earth

9. SUMMARY:

In the Gospels, Christ is presented in His earthly ministry, but in the Acts He is presented in His heavenly ministry, building His Church, as He promised (Matthew 16:18), through the power of the Spirit. In the Acts we see the order of witness in the great commission being fulfilled; first in Jerusalem, then Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth. The Book of Acts centers basically around two apostles; Peter, the apostle to the Jews and Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles (Galatians 2:8). It sets forth the formation and establishment of the church upon the foundational principles of the apostles' doctrine, and thus it becomes a pattern-book for the church, both universal and local.

10. CHRIST SEEN:

Christ is seen as the Head of the Church, governing, guiding, equipping, and building it by the Spirit.