

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 has been a prisoner in Rome for two years.
- B. Probably written between 61 and 65 A.D.

4. KEY WORDS

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|---|----|
| A. Jew (ess, s) ----- | 81 |
| B. Spirit, Holy Ghost ----- | 54 |
| C. Gentiles, nation (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.

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 (Zech 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 world

9. SUMMARY

In the Gospels, Christ is presented in His earthly ministry, but in Acts He is presented in His heavenly ministry, building His Church, as He promised (Mt. 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 (Gal 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.